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THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 21, 1851.

For the National Era.

LONGING FOR HOME.

BY MISS ANNIE JONES CHRISMAN.

Between the future and the past,
With fearful, half regretful sigh,
Now forth, now back, my glance is cast,
And now turns upward to the sky;
Backward, the shades of wasted hours
Look on me with a mournful gaze;
I turn to pluck the wayside flowers,
And meet the future's veil of haze.
I sigh for home, the home above,
The home of pure and perfect love;
To rest beneath that healing tree,
To rest beside that living wave,
Amidst the ransomed host to be,
Praising the Lamb that died to save.
O, arm me to the conflict, Lord,
The conflict stern of present life—
I plead in faith thy faithful word—
Make my strength equal to the strife;
O, make me glad thy cross to bear,
Thy easy yoke with joy to wear.
And when a weary, shrinking thought,
My wrestling, struggling soul assails,
To Thee, who not in vain art sought,
To Thee, with whom strong prayer prevails,
To Thee for present help I'll turn,
In patient faith of Thee to learn.

Valley Forge, February 9, 1851.

For the National Era.

MRS. HILL AND MRS. TROOST.

BY PATTY LEE.

It was just two o'clock of one of the warmest of the July afternoons. Mrs. Hill had her dinner all over—had put on her clean cap and apron, and sat on the north porch, making an unbleached cotton shirt for Peter, (Mr. Hill,) who always wore unbleached shirts at harvest time. Mrs. Hill was a thrifty economist. She had been pursuing this housewifely avocation for some little time, interrupting herself only at times to *shu!* away the flocks of half-grown chickens that came noisily about the door for the crumbs from the table-cloth, when the sudden shutting down of a great blue cotton umbrella caused her to drop her work, and exclaim—

"Well, now, Mrs. Troost; who would have thought that you ever would come to see me!"

"Why, I have thought a great many times that I would come," said the visiter, stamping her little feet—for she was a little woman—briskly on the blue flag stones, and then dusting them nicely with her white cambric handkerchief, before venturing on the snowy porch floor of Mrs. Hill. When, shaking hands, she added, "It *has* been a good while, for I remember when I was here last I had my Jane with me—quite a baby then, if you mind—and she is three years old now."

"Is it possible?" said Mrs. Hill, untying the bonnet strings of her neighbor, who sighed, as she continued—

"Yes, she was three along in February;" and she sighed again more heavily than before, though there was no earthly reason that I know of why she should sigh, unless perhaps the flight of time thus brought to mind suggested the transitory nature of human things.

Mrs. Hill laid the bonnet of Mrs. Troost on her "spare bed," and covered it with a little, pale-blue crape shawl, kept especially for like occasions, and, taking from the drawer of the bureau a large fan of turkey feathers, she presented it to her guest, saying—

"A very warm day, isn't it?"

"O, dreadful, dreadful—it seems as hot as a bake oven—and I suffer with the heat all summer more or less. But it's a world of suffering;" and Mrs. Troost half closed her eyes, as if to shut out the dreadful reality.

"Hay-making requires sunshiny weather, you know; so we must put up with it," said Mrs. Hill. "Besides, I can mostly find some cool place about the house. I keep my sewing here on the porch, and as I bake my bread or cook my dinner manage to catch it up sometimes, and so keep from getting overheated; and then, too, I get a good many stitches taken in the course of the day."

"This *is* a nice, cool place—completely curtained with vines"—said Mrs. Troost; and she sighed again. "They must have cost you a great deal of pains."

"O, no, no trouble at all; morning-glories grow themselves—they only require to be planted. I will save seed for you this fall, and next summer you can have your porch as shady as mine."

"And if I had, it would not signify," said Mrs. Troost. "I never get time to sit down from one week's end to another; besides, I never had any luck with vines—some folks haven't, you know."

Mrs. Hill was a woman of a short, plethoric habit—one that might be supposed to move about with little agility, and to find excessive warmth rather inconvenient. But she was of a happy, cheerful temperament; and when it rained she tucked up her skirts, put on thick shoes, and waddled about the same as ever, saying to herself, "This will make the grass grow, or it will bring on the radishes, or something else equally consolatory."

Mrs. Troost, on the contrary, was a little thin woman, who looked as though she might move about nimbly at any season. But, as she herself often said, she was a poor unfortunate creature, and pitied and commiserated herself a great deal, as she was in justice bound to do, for nobody else cared, she said, how much she had to bear.

They were near neighbors—these ladies—but their social interchanges of tea-drinking were not of very frequent occurrence, for sometimes Mrs. Troost had nothing to wear like other folks—sometimes it was too hot, and sometimes it was too cold—and then again nobody wanted to see her, and she was sure she didn't want to go where she wasn't wanted. Moreover, she had such a great barn of a house, as no other woman ever had to take care of. But in all the neighborhood it was called the big house, so Mrs. Troost was in some measure compensated for the pains it cost her. It was, however, as she said, a barn of a place, with half the rooms unfurnished, partly that they had no use for them, and partly that they were unable to get furniture. So it stood right in the sun, with no shutters, and no trees about it, and Mrs. Troost said she didn't suppose it ever would have. She was always opposed to building it, but she never had her way about anything; though some people said Mr. Troost had taken the dimensions of his house with his wife's apron strings—but that may have been slander.

While Mrs. Troost sat sighing over things in general, Mrs. Hill sewed on the last button, and, shaking the loose threads from the completed garment, held it up a moment to take a satisfactory view, as it were, and folded it away.

"Well, did you ever!" said Mrs. Troost; "you have made half a shirt, and I have got nothing at all done. My hands sweat so I can't use the needle, and it's no use to try."

"Lay down your work for a little while, and we will walk in the garden."

So Mrs. Hill threw a towel over her head, and, taking a little tin basin in her hand, the two ladies went to the garden—Mrs. Troost under the shelter of her blue umbrella, which she said was so heavy it was worse than nothing. Beans, radishes, raspberries, and currants, besides many other things, were there in rich profusion, and Mrs. Troost said everything flourished for Mrs. Hill, while her garden was all choked up with weeds.

"And you have bees, too—don't they sting the children, and give you a great deal of trouble? Along in May, I guess it was, Troost (Mrs. Troost always called her husband so) bought a hive, or rather he traded a calf for one—a nice, likely calf, too, it was—and they never did us one bit of good"—and the unhappy woman sighed.

"They *do* say," said Mrs. Hill, sympathizingly, "that bees won't work for some folks—in case their king dies they are very likely to quarrel, and not do well—but we have never had any ill luck with ours; and we last year sold forty dollars worth of honey, besides having all we wanted for our own use. Did yours die off, or what, Mrs. Troost?"

"Why," said the ill-natured woman, "my oldest boy got stung one day, and, being angry, upset the hive, and I never found it out for two or three days; and, sending Troost to put it up in its place, there was not a bee to be found high or low."

"You don't tell! the obstinate little dogs—but they must be treated kindly, and I have heard of their going off for less things."

The basin was by this time filled with currants, and the neighbors returned to the house. Mrs. Hill, seating herself on the sill of the kitchen door, began to prepare her fruit for tea, while Mrs. Troost drew her chair near, saying, "Did you ever hear about William McMicken's bees?"

Mrs. Hill had never heard, and expressed anxiety to do so, which resulted in the following story:

His wife, you know, was she that was Sally May, and it's an old saying—

"To change the name, and not the letter,
You marry for worse, and not for better."

Sally was a *dressy*, extravagant girl—she had her bonnet "done up" twice a year always, and there was no end to her dresses and ribbons and fine things. Her mother indulged her in everything; she used to say Sally deserved all she got; that she was worth her weight in gold.

She used to go everywhere Sally did. There was no big meeting that she was not at, and no quilting that she didn't help to get up. All the girls went to her for the fashions, for she was a good deal in town at her Aunt Hanner's, and always brought out the new patterns.

She used to have her "mutton-leg" sleeves a little bigger than anybody else, you remember, and then she wore great stiffners in them—la, me! there was no end to her extravagance.

She had a changeable silk, yellow and blue, made with a *surplus* front; and when she wore that, the ground wasn't good enough for her to walk on, so some folks used to say; but I never thought Sally was a bit proud or lifted up; and if anybody was sick, there was no better-hearted creature than she; and, then, she was always good-natured as the day was long, and would sing all the day at her work. I remember, along before she was married, she used to sing one song a great deal, beginning

"*It's I've got a sweetheart with bright black eyes.*"

And they said she meant William McMicken by that, and that she might not get him after all—for a good many thought they would never make a match, their dispositions were so contrary.

William was of a dreadful quiet turn, and a great home body; and as for being rich, he had nothing to brag of, though he was high larnt, and *followed the river* as clark sometimes.

Mrs. Hill had by this time prepared her currants, and Mrs. Troost paused from her story while she filled the kettle, and attached the towel to the end of the well-sweep, where it waved as a signal to "Peter" to come to supper.

"Now, just move your chair a leetle nearer the kitchen door, if you please," said Mrs. Hill, "and I can make up my biscuit, and hear you, too."

Meantime, coming to the door with some bread crumbs in her hand, she began scattering them on the ground, and calling biddy, biddy, biddy, chicky, chicky, chicky—hearing which, a whole flock of poultry was about her in a minute; when, stooping down, she secured one of the fattest, which an hour afterwards was broiled for supper.

"Dear me, how easily you do get along!" said Mrs. Troost.

And it was some time before she could compose herself sufficiently to take up the thread of her story. At length, however, she began with—well, as I was saying, nobody thought Mr. McMicken would marry Sally May. Poor man, they say he is not like himself any more. He may get a dozen wives, but he'll never get another Sally. A good wife she made him, for all she was such a wild girl.

The old man May was opposed to the marriage, and threatened to turn Sally, his own daughter, out of house and home; but she was headstrong, and would marry whom she pleased; and so she did, though she never got a stitch of new clothes, nor one thing to keep house with. No, not one single thing did her father give her when she went away, but a hive of bees. He was right down ugly, and called her Mrs. McMicken whenever he spoke to her after she was married; but Sally didn't seem to mind it, and took just as good care of the bees as though they were worth a thousand dollars. Every day in winter she used to feed them—maple sugar, if she had it; and if not, a little Orleans in a saucer, or some old broken dish.

But it happened one day that a bee stung her on the hand—the right one, I think it was—and Sally said right away that it was a bad sign; and that very night she dreamed that she went out to feed her bees, and a piece of black crape was tied on the hive. She felt that it was a token of death, and told her husband so, and she told me and Mrs. Hanks. No, I won't be sure she told Mrs. Hanks, but Mrs. Hanks got to hear it some way.

"Well," said Mrs. Hill, wiping the tears away with her apron, "I really didn't know till now that poor Mrs. McMicken was dead."

"O, she is not dead," answered Mrs. Troost, "but as well as she ever was, only she feels that she is not long for this world." The painful interest of her story, however, had kept her from work, so the afternoon passed without her having accomplished much—she never could work when she went visiting.

Meantime Mrs. Hill had prepared a delightful supper, without seeming to give herself the least trouble. Peter came precisely at the right moment, and, as he drew a pail of water, removed the towel from the well-sweep easily and naturally, thus saving his wife the trouble.

Troost would never have thought of it—so said his lady; and she finished with an ah, well! as though all her tribulations would be over before long.

As she partook of the delicious honey, she was reminded of her own upset hive, and the crisp red radishes brought thoughts of the weedy garden at home; so that, on the whole, her visit, she said, made her perfectly wretched, and she should have no heart for a week; nor did the little basket of extra nice fruit, which Mrs. Hill presented her as she was about to take leave, heighten her spirits in the least. Her great heavy umbrella, she said, was burden enough for her.

"But Peter will take you in the carriage," insisted Mrs. Hill.

"No," said Mrs. Troost, as though charity were offered her, "it will be more trouble to get in and out than to walk"—and so she trudged home, saying, "some folks are born to be lucky."

HAMILTON FISH.—We are enabled to state, (says the Albany *Register*,) upon the most reliable authority, that Governor Fish, since his election to the Senate, has written a letter, in which he says, in substance, that he shall exert himself in that post to give a faithful and cordial support to the Administration, at whose head he is pleased to recognise a personal friend, as well as a distinguished leader of the political party in his own State in whose ranks he has ever labored zealously. Had this letter appeared before his election, it would have saved all opposition, and we are most happy to learn that he has given utterance to such sentiments since.

RUMORED CUBA EXPEDITION.—The last number of the Rome (Georgia) *Courier* contains the following: "For the last few days there have been rumors afloat in our city of another expedition against Cuba, and quite a number of young men from Rome and its vicinity have left, it is supposed, to join in this rather delicate and hazardous enterprise. It is also rumored that this new movement is sanctioned, if not prompted, by men of influence and official standing in Georgia and other Southern States. We understand the expedition is to sail from Savannah on Saturday next. No space for comment at present."

LETTER FROM JOHN VAN BUREN TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONVENTION.

Mr. J. P. Blanchard:

DEAR SIR: I have received your favor of the 31st ult., inviting me to be present and address a Convention of the people of Massachusetts, who are opposed to the Fugitive Slave Law, on the 8th inst., at Boston. My engagements here are such as to prevent my complying with your invitation; but I can readily respond to the request which accompanies it, to be informed, by letter, of my sentiments respecting the law referred to.

The act in question professes to carry out the following injunction of the Constitution:

"No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up, on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due."

To avoid misapprehension, I think it proper to say that, in my opinion, this provision of the Constitution, like all others, should be faithfully enforced. Perhaps no portion of the people was entirely satisfied with every provision in the Constitution, yet all were deemed essential to secure its adoption. They all now constitute parts of the instrument, and should be alike obeyed in spirit and in letter. It is with this feeling that I consider the provision above quoted, and thus regarding it, it seems to me obvious, that the main, if not the only purpose of those who framed it, was, to prohibit each State from passing laws which should release from labor those legally held to it in another State. Doubtless the difficulty in the mind of those who drew this section, and the one they primarily intended to guard against, was the necessity of preserving the rights of slaveholders in some of the States, when other States should, from time to time, see the wisdom and humanity of abolishing slavery. They intended that each State should abolish slavery for itself and not for its neighbors, and that when a State did so abolish slavery, it should not pass any law which would interfere with the right of a slaveholder to pursue and retake his slave in such free State. I doubt whether there was any absolute necessity for legislation, either on the part of the State or General Government, to enforce this provision. The right of recaption without a breach of the peace was, in my judgment, the remedy looked to and secured by the prohibition. It was intended that whatever legal relation in regard to the obligation of service two persons bore to each other by the laws of the State in which they both resided, that relation should not be destroyed by the escape into another State of the one owing service.

But whether the States might or might not legislate to carry out this provision, it seems to me entirely clear, that no power over the subject is given to Congress, either expressly or by implication—and it is to me inexplicable, how those who are so abstemious in the exercise of power over the subject of slavery by Congress, as to deny the authority to prohibit slavery in the District of Columbia, or in the Territories of the United States, should have been able to find not only authority for Congress to legislate in regard to fugitives from service, but an authority so exclusive as to oust the States! This is one of the triumphs of modern ingenuity; and so far as the authority to legislate upon the subject of fugitives from service is concerned, those who claim it for Congress have on their side the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, on a previous act, in the case of *Prigg vs. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.* By this decision, Judges in determining the question of authority would probably be concluded. But in a popular discussion of the propriety of a law with a view to its repeal or modification, I presume we are at liberty to believe in opposition to a decision of the Supreme Court. Even the Executive and Legislative departments deny its authority to bind them. The Supreme Court decided that the Alien and Sedition law was constitutional, and Matthew Lyon was imprisoned under it. The President, Mr. Jefferson, decided that it was not, and pardoned Mr. Lyon. The Supreme Court decided that Congress could constitutionally charter a Bank of the United States, and that the propriety and necessity of doing so were to be judged by Congress. The President, General Jackson, decided that such an act was unconstitutional, and vetoed it. With these examples before me, I feel authorized to express the opinion which I entertain, that the Fugitive Slave Bill is unconstitutional, because Congress have no power to legislate upon the subject.

But to those who regard the decision of the Supreme Court as conclusive, it is important to consider other objections to the act. Conceding the power of Congress to legislate upon the subject, I think the act in question is unconstitutional, because it does not give the person seized a trial by jury at the place where he is so seized, and before he is put in the custody of the claimant with a warrant to transport him. The error, as it seems to me, with great respect, in the legislation of Congress upon this subject arises from confounding two classes of cases which have no analogy with or resemblance to each other. I allude to the surrender of fugitives from justice and the seizure of persons held to service. A bare statement of the provision as to fugitives from justice will show this. It is in these words:

"A person charged in any State, with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another State, shall, on demand of the Executive authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having jurisdiction of the crime."

The striking differences between the two cases are—

1st. The party seized under the last section is charged with having committed an offence against the public—a fugitive from service has committed no offence against the public. It is no crime, I think, by the laws of Georgia, Virginia, or South Carolina, to escape from service, and the laws provide no punishment for it. In Maryland, a law to that effect has recently been passed, but a demand under it would of course be for a fugitive from justice, not for a fugitive from service.

2d. The demand under the last section is made by the Executive authority of the State—a person held to service is claimed by a private individual.

3d. The fugitive from justice is to be removed to the State having jurisdiction over the crime. The person held to service is to be taken wherever the claimant pleases. I am aware that the act of Congress provides a warrant, which, it says, shall authorize the removal of the fugitive from service to the place whence he fled. But the Constitution makes no such provision, nor do I believe it contemplated such a result. The warrant gives the party seized no right to insist upon being carried to the place whence he fled, or upon remaining there when he arrives. If he is seized in New York as a slave, who is alleged to have escaped from his master at Charleston, I see nothing to prevent his being shipped for Brazil, and certainly nothing to prevent his being sold in any slaveholding State through which he may be carried; and it is notoriously the practice, after exhibiting a recovered slave to the other slaves on a plantation as a warning, to sell and remove him to other parts. The framers of the Constitution saw no necessity for removing them to the State whence they fled. They were not, like criminals, to be tried for an offence where it had been committed. They had committed no offence. They had no occasion to be tried anywhere, and I have never heard that a slave who was restored to his master was in any way publicly proceeded against for escaping.

These glaring distinctions between fugitives from justice and fugitives from service seem to have been overlooked by the Congress of 1793, which first legislated upon the subject. The act of that year grew out of the refusal of Virginia to surrender three persons who were demanded by the Executive of Pennsylvania, as charged with the crime of kidnapping a free man in the latter State. The Executive of Virginia refused to comply with this request, although the Constitution made it his duty, on the ground that no legislation had ever prescribed the manner in which and the person by whom such surrender should be made. (1 Am. State Papers, Miscellaneous, 38, 39.) President Washington, on the request of the Executive of Pennsylvania, laid the matter before Congress, and thus the act of 1793 was passed. The attention of Congress being directed only to the case of fugitives from justice, they seem to have overlooked the distinction between such fugitives and those held to service, and provided the same summary proceedings for the surrender of both. So far as the act devolved upon State officers the duty of its execution, it was pronounced by the Supreme Court unconstitutional. (See Martin vs. Hunter's Lessee, 1 Wheaton, 306. Also, Prigg vs. Penn. Commonwealth, 16 Peters, 630.) This restricted the operation of the act to a very limited range, and the small number of cases arising under it do not seem to have excited general inquiry into its constitutionality. But it seems to me the distinctions I have adverted to show that no argument in favor of the fugitive slave act can be drawn from the usage of nations, or the provision of the Constitution in conformity to it which regulates the extradition of criminals. These relate to a public offender—the act in question seeks to enforce a private right; the former is regulated by the public authorities—the latter is a claim instituted by an individual; the former is preliminary, and contemplates a future trial at the proper place—the latter is conclusive of the right for the time, and probably forever, and neither looks to nor needs any future trial. In my judgment, the claim of service secured by the Constitution, if it requires a law to enforce it, and if Congress can pass such a law, can only be provided for by an act which secures the trial of a question in a regular suit before a jury. The seventh amendment to the Constitution provides that "in suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved," &c. This amendment, as well as the fifth, which declares that "no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law," grew out of the opposition manifested to the adoption of the Constitution, because it did not in terms provide for the trial by jury in civil cases. It is needless to remind an American of the anxiety with which this institution has been watched. It is well described by Mr. Justice Story, in the case of Parsons vs. Bedford, 3 Peters, 446. Justice Story also explains what is meant by "a suit at common law," in the section quoted. It covers all suits, except those of equity, admiralty, or maritime jurisdiction; and the judiciary act of 1789, chap. 20, sections 9, 12, and 13, carries this construction into practical operation. It will hardly be claimed that Congress can take *a case* which entitles a party to a jury, and deprive him of a jury by converting it into a summary proceeding, or that they can in the same way deprive him of his liberty or property without due process of law. If they could do this, the trial by jury and the due process of law secured by the Constitution become a mockery. Treating this as a mere question of property exceeding twenty dollars in value, I entertain no doubt that it is a case where a jury trial is secured by the Constitution.

It will be remarked that the provision as to persons held to service has no reference to the color of the person's skin who is thus held, nor to the kind or degree of service. The word "slave" was purposely omitted from the Constitution; and although I think that this relation was the one in the mind of the framers of the Constitution when this section was drawn, still its language, and the language of the act in question, embraces apprentices, and all other persons held to service. If a jury trial, then, is not secured where a claim of service is made, the remarkable result would be, that if a claimant from New Orleans demands my writing desk at New York, he must try titles with me here before a jury, but if he demands me, I can have no such trial. Is there a difference between a claim of labor and a claim of other property? And is the difference such that, when the claim of labor involves the liberty of a person, the defendant forfeits the right of trial by jury?

It may be said that a person seized can try the question of his right to freedom by jury at the place whence he fled. This is a consolation, to be sure, to a man whose freedom has been destroyed by seizure and transportation from his home; and if he could get his witnesses to the place where the claimant concludes to take him, he could have a trial. But the act in question provides no jury trial anywhere; there is no obligation on the claimant to take the person he seizes to any particular place; and if I have a right to try the question of title to property I hold, at the place where the property is, and where the demand is made, how can it be argued that I have no such right when the demand made is for my thews and sinews? It is urged that juries would not render verdicts in favor of claimants where the right was established. This does not correspond with my observation of jury trials. On the contrary, whatever prejudice jurors may feel against a law, I have hardly ever known them to fail in obeying the directions of the court upon a point of law. It is also suggested, that the expense of recovering a fugitive by this mode would amount to a destruction of the right. If such an evil exists, it is incident to this unfortunate relation. It certainly furnishes no reason why the Constitution should be violated, and a safeguard broken down in reference to the liberty of a human being, which is secured to him in defending a horse or a bale of cotton.

But I am passing far beyond the limits of a letter, and devoting more time to the answer of your note than I can well snatch from professional engagements. I must pass over the objection to that provision which devolves the duties of a court upon a Commissioner—a tribunal unknown to the Constitution. I can only glance at the provision at the close of the sixth section of the act, which declares, that the certificate granted under it shall be conclusive of the right of the claimant to remove the alleged fugitive, and "shall prevent all molestation of such person by any process issued by any court, judge, magistrate, or other persons whatsoever." In my opinion, this provision suspends the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in a case not excepted by the Constitution. I am aware that the Attorney General of the United States has decided that a party seized under this act may still have the writ of habeas corpus; but if it appears on the return to it that he is held under a warrant, or certificate, issued in conformity to this act, he must be remanded to the custody of the Marshal or the claimant. The virtue of a writ of habeas corpus is, that it enables a party to institute an inquiry into the cause of his imprisonment, and if he is not charged with a crime, or committed by the final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, as a general rule, to be discharged, unless the right to detain him is established by proof. This I understand to be "*the privilege*" of the writ meant by the Constitution. If it had been the idle ceremony described by the Attorney General, I do not believe the privilege would originally have caused such a struggle to wrest it from a sovereign, or would have been so jealously guarded by the United States Constitution, and the bills of rights in the several States.

There is a single other provision of this remarkable act that I must not omit to notice. It is new, so far as I recollect. I allude to section 10—which provides in substance that a party may go before any court of record in any State or Territory, or in the District of Columbia, or any judge thereof in vacation, and make proof of an escape, and that the person escaping owed service to such party; thereupon the court shall cause a record to be made of the matter so proved, with a general description of the person escaping, with such convenient certainty as may be—"and a transcript of such record, authenticated by the attestation of the clerk and of the seal of said court, being produced in any other State, Territory, or District, in which the person so escaping may be found, and being exhibited to any Judge, Commissioner, or other officer authorized by the law of the United States to cause persons escaping from service or labor to be delivered up, *shall be held and taken to be full and conclusive evidence of the fact of escape, and that the service or labor of the person escaping is due the party in such record mentioned.*" The section authorizes further evidence to be given if the claimant chooses, but it is not to be supposed that, having a record which is declared by law to be "full and conclusive evidence" of the escape and the service due, and which contains a description of the person claimed, he would offer additional testimony, unless, possibly, on the subject of identity. The Judges of the United States Courts have generally held, that in the summary proceedings authorized by the other sections of the act, they are at liberty to receive counter evidence on the part of the person claimed, to give him a hearing, and if he proves he does not owe the service, to set him free. But they would hardly venture to receive such evidence in a case arising under the tenth section, and they certainly would not dare to allow it, on the question of escape or service due, to overthrow a record which the statute makes full and conclusive evidence against the person seized, as to both. It will be observed that a party is thus condemned in his absence, without a notice or hearing, and a record of his condemnation made, which is conclusive against him when he does appear. Monstrous as this consequence is, it is the natural result of placing the claim of service upon the same footing with the extradition of criminals. It does not require a knowledge of law to be advised that such a proceeding as this strikes at the foundation of justice, and tramples upon the elementary principles of jurisprudence. Without the preliminary steps which in any civilized country have been held necessary to acquire jurisdiction either of the person or thing proceeded against, an ex parte record is made, which is full and conclusive, to condemn a human being to a bondage which may be perpetual; if such a record was introduced in any court where judicial proceedings have semblance of justice to establish the right to an animal not absolutely *feræ nature*, it would be scouted from the court with ridicule and contempt. But Congress have made it conclusive proof of the slavery of a fellow creature. If a suitor of one of our Northern ladies should claim their ear-rings or breast-pins with such a record, he would fail; but if he demands their persons, the record is conclusive. It is needless to add, that I think this section intrepidly defies the provision of the United States Constitution, which declares that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.

But we are told we must not discuss these subjects. Those who are daily writing, speaking, meeting, dancing, and dining, to put down agitation, admonish us to be silent. We are told that Congress have adopted a system of Compromise measures on the subject of slavery, which must not be disturbed. My recollection of the occurrences referred to is different from this. I think, as a system, they failed; the bill which embodied them as a compromise was defeated; the omnibus was upset. Even the most distinguished men who advocated them in a lump took no part in their final passage. It was not until the distinguished Chairman of the Committee of Thirteen retired from an eight months' campaign in the Senate, which he lost, to reinvigorate his system in the waters of Newport, and his able associate, as a fugitive from the justice of Massachusetts, escaped into the Cabinet of President Fillmore, that the several bills on the subject of slavery in the United States separately passed into laws. Each of them must therefore now stand or fall by itself.

Again, we are told that the Union of these States is in danger. This information comes to me at least exclusively from politicians, and merchants engaged in a particular branch of business. Without intending to say anything in the least disrespectful of either of these highly respectable classes of traders, I cannot overlook the fact that they are both seeking Southern support. Their interests therefore may mislead their judgments, and certainly their anxiety may magnify, if not make, the danger. So far as I know the feeling of the North, there is a universal devotion to the Union, and a general willingness to secure to the slaveholder his full constitutional rights. I believe the devotion to the Union is almost equally universal at the South. The signal failure of the two Nashville Conventions—the moderated tone of Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi—the loyalty, wisdom, and patriotism, of Virginia, North Carolina, Texas, Kentucky, Louisiana, and Tennessee—all serve to show that the affection for the Union, which ought to be the common sentiment of every American, and the brotherly love and mutual respect that should cement it, are limited to no section, but pervade the entire Republic. There are, and have been, two unions in danger, which alarms the aged politician—I refer to the union of National Whigs and the union of National Democrats. Those two organizations have been shaken, if not dissolved, by the agitation of the slavery question, and those who derive consequence or a livelihood from either have been naturally alarmed at the danger to those unions. But the Union of these States, in my humble judgment, has never been in danger since 1832.

I distrust political panics and Washington cries of alarm. I appeal from the fevers and fainting at the Capitol, to the sound health and steady pulse of the nation. There is not a farmer, or mechanic, or laboring man, in the United States, in my judgment, that believes the Union in danger. I appeal from the artificial heat of partisan orators and writers to the more certain thermometer of Wall street. United States stocks, during all the alleged danger to the Union, have stood firm or advanced. But there is no need of producing this evidence. Those who have assumed a monopoly of saving the Union, I believe, now concede that it is out of danger—they find leisure now to save themselves.

But I must bring this unreasonably long communication to a close. I have availed myself of this occasion to discuss the constitutionality of the act concerning fugitives. I have treated it as the Constitution treats it, altogether as a question of property, wholly omitting to advert to the question of humanity and freedom, so intimately connected with it. I have assigned the reasons why I think it unconstitutional, without stopping to consider how it shocks every notion of justice and right. I do not believe there is a civilized country on earth that would now enact such a law. I do not intend to confine this remark to Governments which permit a trial by jury, nor to free Governments, nor to Christian Governments; but I design to say that no civilized Government would tolerate the seizure and subjection to bondage of one of its citizens or subjects, in the mode that this law allows, if it does not invite. But I have referred altogether to its unconstitutionality. How are its consequences to be avoided? So far as this is to be done by legislation, it seems to me the remedy is with the State Legislatures. An excellent bill for that purpose has been introduced into our Assembly by Mr. Coffin of Otsego, and I trust it may become a law. It does not assume to legislate for fugitive slaves. It protects the free inhabitants of our own State, and presumes all the inhabitants to be free. Other States will, of course, legislate as they deem wise. In the mean time, every individual should determine for himself what respect he will pay to the act of Congress in question. There is a distinction between an unjust and an unconstitutional law. The former must be obeyed till it is repealed. Disobedience to the latter is frequently the only mode of testing its unconstitutionality. A distinguished advocate of our State, the judge of one of our oldest and most tranquil counties, recently adopted this mode of testing the constitutionality of a city ordinance. It is far from my wish to offer any advice to others upon this subject. I have already said that the law applies to persons of all colors, and to service of every kind; and I would simply add, that if I should be seized under this law, I should resist it with all the means I could command.

Respectfully, yours,
JOHN VAN BUREN.

New York, April 4, 1851.

For the National Era.

SONNET.

My heart is sad to-day! for with the ken
Of mental vision, stretching far and wide,
I've looked abroad upon the hosts of men
Diversely scattered over land and tide—
On islands some, and some on ships that glide
From port to port, by busy Commerce sent;
And others still, intently occupied,
Swarming promiscuous o'er the continent;
And as I view them, envy, hate, and pride,
Are visible, and error triumphs still:
Worth bows to fame, and honor is allied
To wealth and power, those phantoms of the will;
Intrigue and cunning conquer every foe,
And hoodwinked ignorance is pleased to have it so.

A. CURTIS.

Jefferson, Ashtabula Co., O., January, 1851.

LAND FOR THE HUNGARIAN EXILES.

The following letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, relative to the lands in Iowa occupied by Governor Ujhazy and his companions, will be read with interest:

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *April* 7, 1851.

GENTLEMEN: On the 7th ultimo, Major G. Tochman addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Interior, requesting that the lands occupied by Governor Ujhazy and his companions, in townships 68, 69, and 70, range 26, and in township 69, range 25, in Decatur county, Iowa, might be withdrawn from sale until the end of the first session of the Thirty-second Congress, to enable him to make application to that body for a grant of those lands to those exiles.

Under these circumstances, the President, on the 24th ultimo, directed that the tracts of land occupied by Governor Ujhazy and his companions be withheld from sale or entry of any kind until the end of the next session of Congress; provided, that each shall designate the particular tract he wishes thus reserved; and, further, that these reservations shall not interfere with any vested rights, or include the improvement of any other actual settler.

You will therefore call upon Governor Ujhazy and his companions to designate the lands they wish reserved, and make the necessary annotations on your books and plats, that the lands thus designated may be withheld from sale, as directed by the President.

If any interference or conflicts arise, you will notify the parties, and after a full hearing, with notice, will refer the case, with your opinion, for the decision of this office.

When all the lands have been designated, the reservation of which is desired by Governor Ujhazy and his companions, you will report a list of them to this office.

You will understand that "the companions" of Governor Ujhazy, thus referred to, are those who with him were driven into exile from Hungary.

Very respectfully, &c.,
J. BUTTERFIELD, *Commissioner.*

Register and Receiver, Fairfield, Iowa.

For the National Era.

FORTUITIES OF GREATNESS.

BY L. A. HINE.

How complex and delicate is our mental organization! Where shall we find a comparison that will aid in conveying our meaning? There is nothing in the whole range of art sufficiently nice in its structure, or sensitive to the touches of external influences, to represent the nature of our intellectual and moral mechanism. As God is infinitely above man, and as humanity is his masterpiece, so must the most perfect manifestations of human genius be infinitely inferior, in sublimity, beauty, and delicacy, to the constitution of man.

The mind has been compared to an instrument of many strings, susceptible to the slightest touch, or the faintest breath. But the Mozarts, the Haydns, and the Bethovens of music, strive in vain to tell us of the delicacy of that spiritual harp of an hundred strings, which the Almighty has strung with the fibres of the human brain. As an instrument of music with many notes is capable of many and most delightful harmonies, when rightly attuned and skilfully played, so the multiplied notes or organs of the mind, when struck by proper influences from without, realize our highest ideal of angelic music; and as, on the other hand, when a complicated instrument is discordant and unskillfully played, the most frightful *charivari* is produced; so an external combination of evil influences produces on the mind all the discords of moral and intellectual madness which are exhibited in the dark history of human life.

Reader, did you ever reflect on the extreme delicacy of the thoughts, feelings, emotions, and susceptibilities of human nature? Did you ever notice the nicety of that mental balance which is essential to a perfect existence? How trifling seems the circumstance that sometimes turns the scale, and fills up a life of misery, that should be constantly overflowing with unbidden joy! Often we see a spirit, or rather the imbodiment of the invisible spirit, that seems in all respects ordained for nobility and happiness, become the source of keenest anguish and most startling deformity of moral life, by a simple breathing of an untoward breath. On the other hand, we occasionally see one that, apparently doomed to ruin in all its ruling loves, at once rise almost to an angel of light and beauty, by the influence of a trifling circumstance.

Reader, if it would be interesting to you to study this subject, glance with me into the history of Greatness, and note the examples I have marked, of glory and immortality, completely won, that once trembled with the weight of a breath, or was suspended with less than a spider's web. Perhaps we shall be impressed with some wholesome philosophical truths by such a review, and be better enabled to understand and assist in perfecting a system of mental culture that will save multitudes from misery, and contribute much to the sum of human goodness and happiness.

Perhaps the life of William Cowper is as forcible an illustration of this point as can be found, in consequence of its eventful character, in respect to what is called sanity and insanity. In it we shall see how susceptible was his mind to external influences. In it, too, we shall see on how small a point human greatness often hangs.

William Cowper was born in 1730. His father was John Cowper, second son of Judge Cowper, and Chaplain to George II. With this parentage we might expect a strong and well-fortified mentality in the son; for his grandfather must have possessed strong abilities to attain a high position in the law, and certainly a man of inferior power could not have obtained the office in the royal household which his father held. But the poet, in his youth, was constitutionally shy and diffident. Familiarity with courtly habits and the manners of high life, from the first moment of his existence, did not give him sufficient boldness to be *himself*, and maintain his identity among his fellows. The contention and bustle of a Westminster education did not subdue his timidity in any degree, says his biographer; so that, though he obtained considerable classical education, he said of himself, that he "was never able to raise his eye above the shoe-buckles of the elder boys, who tyrannized over him." This peculiarity of his character, which finally proved so fatal to his happiness and mental equilibrium, was probably due to a similar defect in the maternal mind, whose timidity undoubtedly rendered his mother most unhappy in maintaining her position in society. Doubtless the annoyance that afflicted her through this defect, immediately previous to the birth of the poet, stamped the same peculiarity on his embryonic mind. Thus we see how trivial a circumstance may produce the greatest consequences to a human being, even before his birth.

From the Westminster seminary Cowper passed to the Inner Temple, where he continued to the age of thirty-three. How he passed this most important period of his life we are not informed. It is certain, however, that even with Lord Thurlow for his preceptor, he made no proficiency in the law. A very few slight pieces of composition are the only productions of fifteen years of literary leisure. This period was spent in idleness and gaiety; but these did not correct the malady of his nature. At the age of thirty-one, his friends procured for him the office of recording clerk to the House of Lords; but the idea of reading in public was a source of such torture and apprehension to him, that he resigned that place, and had influence enough to exchange it for that of clerk of the Journals, which was supposed to require no attendance; but an unlucky dispute in Parliament made it necessary for him to appear in his place. His terrors, continues his biographer, rose to such an astonishing height that his reason was overwhelmed. For several months he had carefully prepared himself, but he trembled in the belief that his knowledge would all forsake him at the bar of the House. This apprehension increased to such a degree, that when the dreaded day arrived, he was unable to make the experiment. He was compelled to relinquish a station, the prospect of which so seriously affected his constitutional sensibility. This conflict between his ambition and his diffidence nearly destroyed his health and faculties; so that the efforts of two learned and benevolent divines failed to restore a lasting tranquillity. He was removed to St. Albans, where he resided a considerable time, under the care of the eminent Dr. Cotton, a scholar and a poet of rare accomplishments and peculiar sweetness of manners. After a year's treatment, his mind began to emerge from its confusion, and he began to seek consolation in Scriptural studies and religious meditation. He formed an acquaintance with the family of the Rev. Mr. Unwin, with whose widow the greater part of his subsequent life was passed. His letters, at this time, are of a deep devotional cast, and bear evidence of continued depression. After the death of Mr. Unwin, Cowper retired with his widow to the village of Olmy, in 1768, where he continued the same pious and secluded habits until 1772, when his faculties were again obscured for the space of eight years, during which, he was attended by Mrs. Unwin with the tenderness and constancy of affection. In 1780 he began to recover, and his first mental employment was the taming and education of three young hares, which he afterwards celebrated in verse. He was soon induced by his affectionate companion to compose some moral pieces for publication, in the hope of giving some salutary employment to his mind. At the age of fifty, therefore, Cowper began to write, with the view of diverting his own melancholy, and of subserving the cause of morality. Whether his writings benefited the world or not, it is certain they were most beneficial to himself. In a letter to his cousin he said: "Dejection of spirits, which, I suppose, may have prevented many a man from becoming an author, made me one. I find constant employment necessary, and therefore take care to be constantly employed. Manual occupations do not engage the mind sufficiently, as I know by experience, having tried many. But composition, especially of verse, absorbs it wholly." In this example we find a mind that oscillated between the total eclipse of a dreadful insanity, and the clear radiance of an illuminated genius. We see how little would becloud it, and how essential was a constant employment to the supremacy of his noble powers. How deep must have been that melancholy which settled in thick darkness over his spirit, and how weak must have been the organs of hope to encourage, of self-reliance to sustain, and of combativeness to embolden him!

In this case, too, we see the necessity of action, mental employment, for self-preservation, to have been the harbinger of Cowper's greatness. He learned, when past the middle of life, that he must "be constantly employed," in order to preserve his sanity. In the following facts we find another fortuity of that excellence he attained in the conception and composition of poems which will live as long as the English language shall endure.

His first volume appeared at the close of 1781, but was not popular in consequence of being too serious for one class, too satirical and witty for another, and of too harsh and negligent versification for the public generally. About this time he became acquainted with the widow of Sir Thomas Austin, who became his warm friend, and to whose suggestion are due many of his celebrated productions. "John Gilpin" was suggested by this lady, the story of which was told him from the recollections of her childhood, to dissipate the gloom of the passing hour. The laughter it occasioned kept him awake most of the night, and he converted the story into a ballad. In 1783 this lady also suggested "The Task," which is said to have been the best and most popular of his performances. The anecdote is thus related:

"This lady happened, as an admirer of Milton, to be partial to blank verse, and often requested her particular friend to try his powers in that species of composition. After repeated solicitations he promised, if she would furnish a subject, to comply with her request. "O," she replied, "you can never be in want of a subject—can write upon any—write upon this sofa!" The poet obeyed her command, and from the lively repartee of familiar conversation arose a poem of many thousand verses, unexampled, perhaps, both in its origin and its excellence."*

The next case I have marked for this connection is that of Alfieri, who was born in Piedmont, in 1749. The extreme susceptibility of his spirit is evidenced in the powerful impression which music made upon his mind. When we notice the influence of the divine art in his case, how brilliantly does his spirit contrast with our dull susceptibilities! He attended the opera, and thus described the effect upon himself:

"This varied and enchanting music sunk deep into my soul, and made the most astonishing impressions upon my imagination. * * * I am fully convinced that nothing acts so powerfully on my mind as all species of music, and particularly the sound of female voices, and of *contralto.* Nothing excites more varied or terrific sensations in my mind. Thus the plots of the greatest number of my tragedies were either formed while listening, or a few hours afterward."

Music is not often valued as a powerful spur to greatness. It is generally regarded as one of the gentle and serene arts, the practice of which will do for an accomplishment, but is of little account as a manifestation of those faculties which lead to renown and immortality. But here we find the latent energies of a great mind awakened from their slumber by the potency of its charms and the inspiration of its harmonies. Under its influence, we find the faculties of Alfieri so aroused and attuned that he could conceive the whole compass of a tragedy during a brief concert. Wonderful, too, that the soothing, refining, and spiritual strains of music should so stir up the terrible in his soul, as to carry his mind over the track of tragical life! Music, whose office seems generally to be to cheer the afflicted, to revive the drooping, to cure the sick, to console the imprisoned, to allay the passions, and to bind the ferocious beasts with its spell, seems, in this case, to have aroused the lion of the human soul, enabled it to feel its might, and carried it in triumph through one of the most difficult channels of greatness.

The third example is no less than the Bard of Avon, the mere mention of whose name is sufficient to call out the hearty applause of the people of any clime, and of any language. In the middle of the sixteenth century the stage was a mere play-house that pandered to the vilest tastes and passions of mankind. Little of true excellence or dignity appeared on the boards. It groaned for a deliverer, and humanity sighed for a saviour from its corruptions. All at once, the people were delighted with the appearance of the boy Shakspeare at a play-house of London. This thing of the stage was, to his mind, suggestive of mighty intellectual achievements; and thus was a life of poetic glory commenced, that has never been eclipsed, and, if it were not rash, I would say it never will be. Shakspeare elevated and dignified the stage, infused an exalting spirit of virtue into its entertainments, and filled the actors' tongues with those noble sentiments, so exquisitely and sublimely expressed, that the vulgar were moved to some loftier conceptions of the true life! But, as our curiosity is somewhat excited by this man, Shakspeare, how came he at a London play-house? Why, in that period of youthful vigor, while the spirits ran high, and when the mind had no positive enjoyments, William thought it would be nice sport to have an adventure, with a band of deer-stealers, in robbing the park of Sir Thomas Lacy, near Stratford. But, all at once, the enjoyment of this adventure was interrupted, when he found himself detected as *particeps criminis* in that which he had not even dreamed to be anything but good sport. To escape the punishment of the law, William had energy enough to fly from his family, and bury himself in the great city of London, until Sir Thomas should forget the loss of his deer. Thus did a crime make William the full-sized Shakspeare that we see him to be in his works; and every year, for nearly three centuries, has added to the monument of his renown.

* Hayley's Life of Cowper.

[TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.]

POPULATION OF FLORIDA.

The area of the territory of Florida is fifty-seven thousand square miles, or thirty-seven millions of acres.

	Free.	Slaves.	Deaths.	Dwellings.
West Florida -	14,208	8,420	240	2,804
Middle Florida	15 677	22,135	396	2,970
East Florida -	16,777	9,338	233	2,811
Totals - -	46,762	39,893	869	8,585

FUGITIVE SLAVES IN PENNSYLVANIA.—*Harrisburg, Tuesday, April* 15.—The Senate bill relative to the repeal of a portion of the act of 1847, relative to the recapture of fugitive slaves, has passed the House of Representatives—yeas 54, nays 33. This opens our prisons for the detention of fugitives.

DEATH OF JUDGE DAGGETT.—New Haven papers announce the death of the Hon. David Daggett, at the advanced age of eighty-six. He was a jurist of great ability and eminence, and for many years was one of the most popular and influential citizens of Connecticut.

COL. BENTON AT HOME.—We have the pleasure of laying before our readers to-day the speech made by Ex-Senator Benton, to the Democracy of St. Louis, on the night following his return to his late constituents. We take our report from the St. Louis *Union.* It will be perceived that the orator has "listed for the war." Within twelve hours after his arrival, he had made appointments to speak for the four succeeding evenings, in different parts of the city.

A NUISANCE.—The Grand Jury of Georgetown District, South Carolina, for the spring term of court, present as a nuisance all those transient persons from the non-slaveholding States, who come to that District in the winter, for the purpose of trading, shad-fishing, and duck-shooting. They believe them to be injurious to all classes of our population, and therefore solicit the intervention of the Legislature in the matter.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 24, 1851.

THE COLORED POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

Were there no colored people in this country, and were the question of the expediency of introducing them submitted to us, there would be no difference of opinion: all would unite in opposing it. But, they are here, to the number of between three and four millions; their ancestors were brought hither without their consent; they have been born here in the order of Nature. They cannot be enslaved always, and ought not to be, if they could. They cannot be deported from the country, and ought not to be, if they could.

What course, then, should we pursue towards them? What does Duty, what does Policy, require? In this, as in all other cases, Christianity furnishes a clear, infallible rule of conduct—"*Do unto others as ye would that others should do to you.*" We must treat the colored people as we should wish to be treated, were we in their condition. If slaves, we would ask our freedom; if free, the enjoyment of our freedom. In divesting others, innocent of crime, of their liberty, or in making liberty to those who are free, a burden, we are doing precisely what we should resist to the death, as oppression, were it attempted towards us. This point is too clear for argument: a multitude of words would but obscure it.

But, the path of Duty is the path of Safety. Obedience to the Golden Rule never yet worked evil, and never can. We may not be able to see clearly, if at all, the consequences of our own acts, but we know that the fruit of righteousness is and must be peace.

This is a summary method of disposing of the questions of Duty and Policy in relation to the Colored Population; too summary to correct the misapprehensions, to expose the sophistries, to overcome the prejudices, which surround and perplex the subject. Let us examine the Question in its details, addressing ourselves to those who believe the perpetual enslavement and the deportation of the colored race, equally impracticable.

The colored race is an improvable one, whether so rapidly or to such a degree as the white race it is not necessary to inquire. But, it is improvable to an indefinite extent. Its history shows that, like other races, it is amenable to the Law of Progress. No one will deny that American slaves have advanced in all respects far beyond their ancestors, imported from Africa, who were mere uncivilized Pagans, of brutish ignorance and loathsome practices. Their descendants, even under the system of slavery, have been redeemed from barbarism and heathenism. They have been trained to habits of regular, methodical labor; they have acquired the use of tools; they have been initiated into the arts of civilized life; they have imbibed some ideas of self-government; they have been indoctrinated into some general notions of Christianity: and the present generation is much superior in all these respects to the preceding, as that was to the immediate descendants of the imported Africans. We have never conversed with a slaveholder who did not acknowledge, and take pride in acknowledging, this steady advancement of the race.

Similar progress is observable among *free* people of color. We know how common it is with thoughtless or prejudiced persons to revile this class of population, as lazy, thievish, and licentious. A few considerations will suffice to show their injustice. The question is, not whether these people are as elevated as white people, but whether they give evidence of improvement. A little more than a century ago, their fathers were Pagans. They themselves have been slaves, or they are the children of slaves. Can you expect to see among them the same intelligence, refinement, and comparative exemption from vicious practices, that characterize the white people, who have enjoyed the benefits of ages of civilization, and have controlled all the resources of this country for their own special benefit? Suppose you do find more poverty among them, more ignorance, a greater number of them in our jails and houses of correction, it only proves that their release from slavery has been too recent and their disabilities are too heavy to allow of their easy ascent to the elevation of a People whose fathers have never known the yoke of bondage, or the degradation of caste legislation.

Let us compare the free people of color now with what they were a generation ago, and every intelligent man must admit their improvement. They are less puerile and barbarous in their tastes; not so strongly marked by ridiculous pretensions; more sedate and self-respectful; more bent on self-improvement. The number of property-holders among them has greatly multiplied; they have more schools, more churches, more benevolent associations. Let any one observe the good taste in dress, and the quietness of demeanor, which mark our resident colored population in this city, in their attendance at their various churches on Sundays, and he cannot doubt that they have taken a large step in advance of slaves. What is true of them here, is true of them in other places. Everywhere they show evidence of progress. Nor should we wonder at their slow growth in civilization, for never had any people to struggle against such obstacles. In addition to the degrading memories of their prison-house, look at the relations they sustain to the community generally. In the South, the labor is performed by slaves. The owner of a plantation of one hundred negroes or more needs no free-laborers, but repels them, especially if they be of the same race with his slaves. Even poor white men find it almost impossible to obtain work, and maintain a position in a region where the system of slave labor prevails: what chance is there for the free colored man? Now, what is the laborer to do, if he can find no employment?

In the free States, the labor is monopolized to a great extent by the white race, which is constantly receiving vast accessions of laborers from Europe. This formidable competition limits the field of operations, and lessens the opportunities of the colored man. Of less native energy and tact, laboring under legal discriminations against him, he must seek employment in a labor market, crowded with more enterprising and highly-favored competitors.

The common argument against emancipation, drawn from the condition of the free people of color, is grossly unfair. Nowhere have these people been placed in circumstances favorable to their development. In St. Domingo, when the civil war commenced, the blacks were scarcely more civilized than when brought from Africa. They were in fact a savage people, and, having accomplished their emancipation by a series of bloody struggles, calculated to bring into terrible activity the worst passions and vices of savage nature, what could be expected of them subsequently but a succession of failures in their attempts to govern themselves? Besides, we must remember, that the only colonies, so far, that have succeeded in the great work of self-government, are those established under the auspices of English or American civilization.

In the British West Indies, the colored people, while they have not degenerated under a system of free labor, have not manifested that marked improvement which is demanded by the upholders of slavery, as an evidence of the expediency of emancipation. True, they are slowly gaining in intelligence; marriage is becoming far more common among them; crime is less frequent; there is no pretence that they are not quiet and peaceably disposed; but, they are indolent, unenterprising, thriftless, improvident. We admit it; but, is no allowance to be made for the influence of climate? Are the white people in those islands as industrious and enterprising as the white people in this country? Is no allowance to be made for the ruinous workings of the absenteeism of proprietors, and the miserable cultivation under the wasteful supervision of attorneys and agents?

Is it fair to predicate any conclusion in regard to emancipation in our country from its effects in Hayti and the British West Indies? Our slaves are not barbarous, as were the negroes of St. Domingo, whose savageism was aggravated by the cruelty of the French planters; they are as weak numerically, in proportion to our white population, as they were strong in St. Domingo in proportion to its white population; nor is any bloody revolution contemplated. Our slaves are far more civilized and intelligent than were the slaves of the British West Indies; our climate is less enervating; with us, they constitute a minority, as in them, they were the majority; our planters attend to their own estates, which are not covered all over with mortgages, as was the case in the West Indies. In the event of emancipation, the South would not be cursed by absenteeism; the planters would be on the spot to manage to their own interests, and they would possess the political power, so that they could make what provisions they might deem judicious for the regulation of the relations of the employer and the employed. In the British West Indies, the act of emancipation was forced upon the planters against their will; at first, they threw obstacles in the way of its successful working; then they contented themselves with simply withholding cordial coöperation; it was long before they would try to make the best of their new condition. In our country, the slaveholders have the sole power of legislating on the subject; emancipation by law must be their own act, and can only emanate from a Sentiment which will lead them to put it in the best shape, and carry it out "with a will." So that the effects upon the colored people would be very different from those observed in other countries from a similar act.

Once more: it is not fair to argue from what the free people of color are now, to what they would be, were the whole race liberated, and their rights protected. The candid slaveholder will admit, that while, under the system of slavery, the free man of color must be degraded by his relationship with an enslaved race, curtailed in his privileges, and excluded to a great extent from employment, so as to be exposed to poverty and humiliation, and subjected to the heaviest temptations to crime, his condition would be completely changed, were the system abolished, and all his race converted into free laborers. He would no longer be obliged to compete with slaves. The free colored people would constitute the laborers of the South, and at once begin to feel the force of the usual incentives to industry and thrift.

And what an impulse would be given to the improvement of the colored people in the free States, by a change in the condition of their brethren in the South from slavery to freedom, and by a repeal of the laws which degrade them, and impair their spirit of enterprise.

Suppose the Jews in this country were excluded from the ordinary benefits of education, denied their oath or affirmation in our courts of justice, required to give bonds and security wherever they might locate themselves, prohibited from obtaining a legal settlement, forbidden to acquire real estate, excluded from some States, and in various ways proscribed and persecuted in others, could they be expected to sustain a comparison in point of character or intelligence or manners with other classes protected and encouraged in the enjoyment of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness?

On the ground, then, that the colored race cannot be deported from this country, or always enslaved in it, we go for their emancipation, in the South from slavery, in the North from legal disabilities—because it is right, because it is expedient—an act of justice to them, an act of sound policy towards our own interests.

Certainly our convenience and safety demand this, whatever may be our prejudices. For, if the colored people are to continue among us, is it not desirable that their character should be improved and their condition meliorated? The higher they rise in the scale of civilization, the more tolerable their presence will become, the less burden they will be upon the country. Everywhere the statesman, though he may disregard the claims of philanthropy, acknowledges the obligations imposed by self-interest to elevate the condition of the poor, to improve the character of the criminal. The Public Safety demands measures for the prevention of poverty and crime, by the diffusion of intelligence among the masses, and the removal of disabilities which impair their self-respect and weaken their energies. We have *a mass* of three and a half millions of People among us, who cannot be thrust out of our borders; and the simple question is, shall we attach them to the country by dealing justly by them, and seeking their improvement, or make them fireside foes, reckless aliens in our midst, by doing all we can to degrade and imbrute them?

The North acts ungenerously to the South, barbarously to the colored man, when she attempts to rid herself, without regard to the convenience of her neighbor, of an unwelcome class of population; the South acts ungenerously to the North, cruelly to the colored man, when she makes banishment from her soil a condition to emancipation. Both sections violate, by such a policy, every dictate of Justice and Mercy, injure their own interests, and lay up for themselves incalculable evils in the future.

Here, as in all other cases, Justice is Wisdom; Oppression, a Blunder, as well as Crime.

RESIGNATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC SENATORS IN NEW YORK.

A bill authorizing a loan of nine millions of dollars, for the completion of the Erie Canal Enlargement and the Genesee Valley and Black River Canals, pledging the future revenues of the canals for the payment of the loan, was lately introduced in the New York Legislature, and strenuously urged by the Whig members. The 12th section of the 7th article of the new Constitution declares—

"That except the debts specified in the 10th and 11th sections of that article, (which are debts to meet casual deficits, or failures of revenue, or for expenses not provided for, not exceeding at any time one million of dollars, and to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or defend the State in war,) no debt shall hereafter be contracted by or on behalf of the people of this State, unless such debt be for a single work or object, and a tax be imposed sufficient to pay the principle and interest within eighteen years from the time of the contracting thereof; and that every law authorizing a loan, shall, before it takes effect, be submitted to the people at the general election, and be approved by a majority of all the votes cast for and against it at such election.

"The sixth section of the same article declares that 'the Legislature shall not sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of any of the Canals of the State, but they shall remain the property of the State, and under its management forever.'

"The third section of the same article provides that 'after paying the expenses of superintendence and repairs of the canals and the sums appropriated by the first and second sections of the article, ($1,650,000 to pay our existing State debt,) there shall be paid out of the surplus revenues of the canals, to the Treasury of the State, on or before the 30th day of September, in each year, for the use and benefit of the General Fund, such sum not exceeding two hundred thousand dollars as may be required to defray the necessary expenses of the State, and the remainder of the revenues of the said canals shall in each fiscal year, be applied in such manner as the Legislature shall direct to the completion of the Erie Canal Enlargement, and the Genesee Valley and Black River Canals, until the said canals shall be completed.'"

The wisdom of these provisions is manifest. The People cannot guard too carefully against the creation of debts by their agents. The Canal Bill was clearly repugnant to the spirit and policy of these provisions, and, it seems to us, in plain violation of their letter. The Democratic members resisted the passage of the bill, and announced their purpose, if it were insisted upon, to resign their places. It was insisted upon, and on the 17th, twelve Democratic Senators made good their declaration by sending in their Protest, and resigning their seats, leaving the Senate without a quorum. An adjournment *sine die* became necessary; but, as the appropriation bills had not been passed, and the State Government was left without the means of carrying on its operations, Governor Hunt has issued his proclamation for an extra session, to be held on the 10th of June next. Elections to fill the vacancies of the Senators resigned will be held about the 20th May.

POPULATION STATISTICS.

The following table shows the population of the two sections of the Union in 1850, compared with that of 1840:

FREE STATES.		
Free population in 1850	- - -	13,574,797
Do. do. 1840	- - -	9,728,972
Increase	- - - -	3,845,825
Rate of increase, 39½ per cent.		
SLAVE STATES.		
Free population in 1850	- - -	6,409,938
Do. do. 1840	- - -	4,848,150
Increase	- - - -	1,561,788
Rate of increase, 32¾ per cent.		
Slave population in 1850	- - -	3,075,234
Do. do. 1840	- - -	2,486,231
Increase	- - - -	589,003
Rate of increase, 23.6 per cent.		

The speculations of the *Southern Press* upon these general results of the census are as peculiar as its general theory of progress. It says:

"Now, from 1840 to 1850, the foreign emigration to the United States, with its natural increase, cannot be less than two millions—(for the last four years only, it has averaged 230,000 per annum) And this has gone almost exclusively to the North. Deduct this from her present population, and there remains 11,574,797—showing a natural increase of only 1,845,675, or less than nineteen per cent. in ten years. The total population of the South in 1840 was 7,334,731. Now, in 1850, it is 9,362,172—showing a natural increase (since there has been little or no foreign emigration) of nearly twenty-eight per cent.—nearly fifty per cent. more than the natural increase of the North.

"In all the decades that have elapsed since this Union was formed, our increase of population has been nearly the same, differing only one or two per cent. from thirty-six in the first, to about thirty-four per cent. in the one of 1830–'40. In the last—1840–'50—it has been almost the same, about thirty-five per cent.; although in these *ten* years our foreign emigration has trebled the number of the previous *twenty* years. From 1820 to 1840, it was only 798,770. It results, therefore, that the ratio of natural increase in the North has at length fallen at least fifty per cent. below the previous rate, whilst that of the South has not declined! For the natural increase of the whites in the South is greater than the average of black and white. The natural increase of the slave population is, as heretofore, almost invariably twenty-five per cent. in ten years. The increase of the whites is therefore more than the average. It has advanced in fact from 4,847,376 in 1840, to 6,294,938 in 1850—almost exactly thirty per cent.; which is about the highest ratio of natural increase at any time during the Union—making allowance for a small amount of foreign emigration in the earlier periods. It is thus demonstrable, that if foreign emigration were now to cease, the aggregate of white and black population in the South would equal that of the North in half a century, and that in a century the white population alone of the South would equal the total population of the North."

It is easy for a tolerable logician to prove anything, if you concede his premises. The increase of the free population of the South the last ten years is 32.2 per cent., not 30; while that of the North, if we take the statement of the *Southern Press*, is less than 19 per cent.! There is such an air of total improbability about this result, that it would require evidence of the most demonstrative character to satisfy any intelligent man of its correctness. But, no matter how marvellous the results worked out by the calculations of our statistical neighbor, he seems never to dream that he may be mistaken in his data.

We confess we felt somewhat puzzled, when we saw the conclusion to which he had come, respecting the relative ratios of increase in the two sections, to understand why it was that the North had been smitten with barrenness—how it was that Slavery acted as a fecundating agent. Could it be possible that virility was dependent upon a man's being a slaveholder, and that his fruitfulness was to be estimated from the number of slaves he possessed?

Seriously, the whole argument of the *Southern Press* is founded on very improbable assumptions. It says the foreign immigration, with its natural increase, for the last ten years, cannot be less than two millions—and this has gone almost exclusively to the North. The actual number of foreign immigrants for the last decade may be ascertained, we presume, with tolerable exactness. Why did not the *Southern Press* consult the records?

According to these, the whole number of foreign passengers that arrived in the United States in twenty-six years, from October 1st, 1820, to September 30th, 1846, was 1,354,305, of whom 1,085,477, or about four-fifths, arrived in the free States, and 268,828, or one-fifth, in the slave States. This gives the number registered at all the custom-houses. Some are registered as "born in the United States;" some came for business or pleasure; some, disappointed in the hope of bettering their condition, returned. Allowing for these classes a deduction of 200,000, we must *add* about the same number for foreign immigrants entering the country from the Canadas; so that the actual number settled among us would still remain the same.

Taking the six years from 1840, inclusive, the record shows the whole number to have been 583,843. Add to this the immigrants for the succeeding four years, which the *Southern Press* estimates at not less than 230,000 a year, and the whole number of immigrants for the ten years ending 1850 is 1,504,000, the natural increase of which, allowing an annual increment of three per cent., has augmented the number to 1,716,000.

As we have seen, the proportion for twenty-six years that entered the slave States was one-fifth. The same proportion was observable for the six years ending in 1846. It may be said that the numbers registered at the ports in the slave States afford no accurate data for calculating the numbers settling in them. That is true. Many arrive at Baltimore, who proceed at once to the non-slaveholding States of the West, and some who enter by the way of New Orleans go up the river to Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin. But we may safely assume that the proportion of these does not exceed that of those who, entering the port of New York on account of its greater convenience, find their way afterwards to the South.

We must remember, too, that for the last four years the tide of foreign immigration to the slave States has been increasing. In New Orleans, the negroes in hotels and boarding-houses have been displaced to a considerable extent by foreigners. The numerous railway undertakings in Georgia and some of the other slave States have attracted large numbers of foreigners thither. St. Louis and Baltimore owe their rapid increase to foreign immigration. Louisville has added to her foreign population some fifteen thousand during the last ten years. Vast numbers of the immigrants are finding their way into Missouri, Texas, and into all the towns along the Mississippi.

From these considerations, and in view of the statistics presented of immigration, we think it fair to conclude that to the foreign immigration and its increase, the last ten years, the slave States owe about four hundred thousand of their increase in population, the free States, about thirteen hundred thousand. Deducting these amounts, respectively, from the increase in each section, we find that the natural increase of the non-slaveholding States is 26 per cent., that of the slaveholding, 24 per cent.

Jesse Chickering, of Boston, in an elaborate work, published in 1848, estimated the natural increase of the white population of the United States at 26.28 per cent. for ten years. Our estimate puts it for the free population at about 25 per cent., so that the natural increase of the North is one per cent. more than the average, that of the South, one per cent. less. His calculations on this point, founded on the censuses of 1830 and 1840, make the difference much greater:

"The actual increase of the *white* population of the United States, from 1830 to 1840, was, as just stated, 3,658,428, or 34.71 *per cent.*; of free States, 2,686,546, or 39.06 *per cent.*, and of slave States, 971,882, or 26 54 *per cent.*, being greater than the *natural* increase, averaging through the United States, by 8 43, 12.78 and .26 *per cent.* respectively, and showing a great difference between the two sections of the country. This difference has arisen partly from the *greater foreign immigration into the free States*, as will appear on reference to table I, the amount there being as 4 to 1, and the proportion as 2 to 1 nearly in favor of the free States.

The whole number of foreign immigrants registered at the custom-houses of the United States, in 10 years from July 1, 1830, to June 30, 1840, was	-	579,370
Add 50 *per cent.* on account of omissions	-	289,685
Natural increase of foreign immigrants	-	19,650
Total	- - -	888,705

Of whom the number of immigrants that entered the country was—	*Free States.*	*Slave States.*
	460,030	119,340
Add 50 *per cent.*	230,015	59,670
Proportion of their natural increase	15,602	4,048
Total	705,647	183,058

"After deducting 705,647 from 2,686,546, the whole increase of the whites in the free States, we have remaining 1,980,899, which is 28.806303, &c. *per cent.* of 6,876,620, the number of the whites in 1830. This is a rate of increase of 2.52 *per cent. more* than the average of the whole country.

"After deducting 183,058 from 971,882, the whole increase of the whites in the slave States, we have 788,824 for the amount of their natural increase, which is 21 548105, &c., *per cent.* of 3,660,758, their number in 1830, or 4.74 *per cent. less* than the average in whole country, and 7.26 *per cent. less* than in the free States. Besides, it is confidently believed that more white persons emigrate from the free to the slave States, than from the slave to the free States."

We think the difference between the ratios of natural increase is estimated too high; but, after the various calculations that have been presented, we presume no candid mind can doubt that there is a decided difference in favor of the free States. That it is not greater is owing to the fact, that the vast new territory acquired by Slavery for the last half century has delayed to a great extent its depressing influence on population. It is in the older States, whose soil has been exhausted by its improvident culture, that we are to look for its effects upon the ratio of natural increase.

THE FREE SOIL MEN IN BOSTON AND THE FUGITIVE LAW.

The Webster papers in Boston were unscrupulous in their misrepresentations of the course of the Free Soil men, and the Telegraph brought us any amount of false reports about them. They were denounced as counselling and concerting violent opposition to the Laws, and the most revolutionary measures. The following brief paragraph from the Boston *Commonwealth* sets the matter all right:

"We take this occasion to repeat what we have frequently said, that we countenance no resistance to law. We need not reiterate our abhorrence of the Fugitive Slave Law. But we rely solely upon legal, constitutional modes of opposition. No other modes have been attempted in Boston, and we do not believe that any other modes are thought of. The liberties of free citizens must be protected by employing all the safeguards which our laws afford."

THE ELECTIONS.

The results of the elections in Connecticut and Rhode Island are decidedly in favor of Free Soil. The reëlection of Mr. Cleveland, the *Hartford Republican* says, is a glorious triumph. The Hunkers of both parties worked hard to defeat him; spurious tickets were circulated all through his district; but every device failed. In Norwich, 119 spurious tickets were got into the ballot-box, 19 with the name of John C. Ames for Congress, the rest with the name of Ephraim Williams, (Whig.)

Mr. Chapman, elected in the place of Waldo, Democrat, is understood to be a Free-Soiler.

The *Republican* classifies the Senate into 12 Whigs, 8 Democrats, 1 Free-Soiler. Three members are pledged against any Compromise candidate for the United States Senate. The House, it says, consists of 108 Whigs, 109 Democrats, and 7 Free-Soilers. On joint ballot the parties will stand 120 Whigs, 117 Democrats, and 8 Free-Soilers.

The *Republican* adds—

"It will be apparent to all that no Hunker of any sort, whether Silver Gray or some other sort of gray, can have Roger S. Baldwin's vacant seat in the United States Senate. No Silver Gray Hunker can get through the Senate, unless Messrs. Ramsdell, Taintor, and Fish, are false to their professions. But, if such a Hunker *should* get through the Senate, he cannot get through the House. The Free-Soilers may not be able to secure the election of their own candidate; but they will doubtless keep their eyes open, and observe very closely what the Whigs undertake with respect to Hon. Roger S. Baldwin, who is a Whig, and, what is far better, an honest man."

Philip Allen, the Governor elect of Rhode Island, is one of the class of real Democrats, if we may believe the following communication in the *Boston Commonwealth*:

"Mr. Editor: You have heard before this that Philip Allen was yesterday elected Governor by a decided majority over his Whig competitor, Mr. Chapin. Mr. Allen was a decided Free Soil Democrat in 1848, and gave his support to Van Buren and Adams. He was very *open and decided in his opposition to the nomination of General Cass* for President, and I will further add that he is decidedly hostile to the Fugitive Slave Law.

"Respectfully, Asa Fairbanks."

As to Mr. Thurston, the Democratic member of Congress elect from Rhode Island, the following letter decides his position:

"Hopkinton, *August* 18, 1849.

"Sir: In answer to your communication of the 8th inst., I submit to you the following, which is but a repetition of the sentiments which, in public or private, I have expressed on questions of this nature:

"Those articles of the Buffalo Platform which relate to the extension and the perpetuation of domestic slavery, and to the connection of the Federal Government therewith, I consider to be no *restriction*, but rather an *extension of the Democratic principles which I profess*; and consequently I shall deem it my duty to advocate them on the same ground which influenced my vote on the Wilmot Proviso at the last session of Congress.

"With these views, I cannot consistently cast my vote for a Speaker of the House of Representatives whose *personal or official influence would be exerted in favor of the institution of domestic slavery.* In confirmation of this, I may say that I supported the Hon. Robert McClelland from Michigan—a stanch advocate of Freedom—at the three ballotings for Speaker, at the opening of the Thirtieth Congress. The reasons which Mr. Palfrey gave on the same occasion for supporting Mr. Hudson would, under similar circumstances, in the same way influence myself.

"I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant, B. B. Thurston."

"*C. Whipple, Esq., Chairman Free Soil Nominating Committee.*"

THE PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

The Pennsylvania Legislature, the Democratic members of which were to a great extent under the influence of Mr. Buchanan, who is an aspirant for the Presidency, and looks to the South for support, went as far as it dared, at its late session, in concession to the demands of slavery. It succeeded, after some opposition from the Whig members, in passing a bill repealing the following section of a law against kidnapping, enacted in 1847:

"6. It shall not be lawful to use any jail or prison of this Commonwealth, for the detention of any person claimed as a fugitive from servitude or labor, except in cases where jurisdiction may lawfully be taken by any judge, under the provisions of this act; and any jailor, or keeper of any prison, or other person, who shall offend against the provision of this section, shall, on conviction thereof, pay a fine of $500, one-half thereof for the use of the Commonwealth, and the other half to the person who prosecutes, and shall moreover thenceforth be removed from office, and be incapable of holding such office of jailor or keeper of a prison at any time during his natural life."

The bill, as it originally stood, proposed to repeal, in addition, the third, fourth, seventh, and eighth sections, which prohibit the magistrates of the Commonwealth from taking jurisdiction in slave cases, forbid, under penalty of fine and imprisonment, the seizure and conveying off of any alleged fugitive in a violent or tumultuous manner so as to disturb the peace, and deprive slaveholders of the privilege of bringing slaves within the State, and retaining them there for six months; but this was stricken out in the Senate by a vote of sixteen to fourteen.

SOUTH CAROLINA AND SECESSION.

There are indications of wavering among the Secessionists of South Carolina, but the Press, with here and there an exception, seems bent upon the revolutionary measure. Senator Butler lately made a speech before the Edgefield Southern Rights Convention, but, while it breathed unmitigated hostility to the Federal Government, it did not quite come up to the demands of the Secession Party. The Judge was rather obscure, when he came to discuss the remedy for the oppression under which the State was groaning.

The *Edgefield Advertiser*, presenting a brief abstract of his remarks, says:

"If there be nothing very definite in this brief delineation, the fault is not ours. We perceived that the Judge was laboring under some degree of restraint imposed by his present connection with the Federal Government. But for this, his views might have suited a majority of his hearers much better. We are free to declare, as faithful journalists, that our honorable Senator indicates a temporizing policy as the one towards which he leans. We of Edgefield sincerely respect his opinions; but many, very many of us, were utterly unable to reconcile his brilliant eloquence while depicting our wrongs, and powerful demonstration while arguing the futility of hoping for any good from the Government, with the singular conclusion he deduced therefrom.

"We may safely (and we hope without a thought of disrespect to the distinguished Senator) assert that he left the audience almost precisely where he found them. Those who had made up their opinions saw no sufficient reason to modify them. Those who had not, saw nothing sufficiently express or definite to induce them to take either side."

We perceive that Gen. Hamilton has brought the weight of Mr. Calhoun's authority to bear against separate secession. In a letter published in the *Charleston Mercury*, explaining his reasons for not delivering, according to request, a eulogium at Bluffton, on the life and character of that distinguished man, he makes the following statement:

"If I had addressed you, as it was anticipated, in discussing the principles and opinions of Mr. Calhoun, as illustrative of his public life, I should have felt myself bound to communicate an important fact, that, up to the period of his death, he never contemplated the separate and insulated action of South Carolina, even on an exigency so vehement and pressing in his opinion as the admission of California. He looked alone to the united and coöperative action of Virginia and a majority of the cotton States. *He never for one instant cherished the idea of devoting South Carolina to desolation, or our people to slaughter, that other States of the South might be dragooned into our support.* His whole policy was founded on a friendly and pacific union of the South for the protection of the South. With that sanguine temperament which belonged to his noble nature, which belongs to the very constitution of genius, he cherished this hope to the last. This extinct, he did not look beyond the great moral lesson which the motto impressed on our own Palmetto holds forth for the instruction of her sons: *Animis opibusque Parati.* That these were the opinions of this great man, I have in my possession *the most irrefutable testimony*, which at a fitting time shall be made public, if need be."

We presume South Carolina will proceed in her apparently revolutionary movement, and that pro-slavery politicians will continue to talk ominously of her purposes, until they have secured the organization of the next Congress, and dictated the Presidential nominations of the old Parties.

THE HIGHER LAW.

The editor of the *New York Express*, who has taken great pleasure in denouncing and ridiculing Mr. Seward and his "higher law" doctrine, in reply to a communication from a subscriber, in a recent number of his paper, thus lays down the doctrine as his own:

"The law of God is unquestionably superior to the law of man. *No human legislation can make it the duty of a citizen to commit a crime.* All theologians, metaphysicians, and Christian publicists, agree to this. The Christian martyrs, therefore, in suffering the penalties of the civil law—that is, martyrdom—in order to obey the law of God, illustrated in their sufferings both their love of God and their obedience to the law of man. *We ought to obey God rather than man, but if we break civil government thereby, we ought also cheerfully to endure its penalties, as did the martyrs.*

* * * * * * * *

"When God's law is violated by civil government, the citizen has *no right to obey the civil law, because it would offend against God*; but he has no right to resist it, *because it would endanger the peace of society*—a great crime. His duty is, therefore, to endure the penalty."

This is precisely the doctrine of Seward, except that he and the "higher law" men generally would always make an exception in favor of Revolution, on the grounds set forth in the American Declaration of Independence.

It is time for politicians to stop their rigmarole about the "higher law." Everybody, not a fool, believes in it.

ANSWERED.

"We have always understood him to say, if the law requires him '*to do* a moral wrong,' he would 'disobey the law.' But that is not the question between us. The question is, what will be his course when the law commands him '*not to do*' what his obligations to God and humanity require him to do."—*Liberty Party Paper.*

We know no difference between a sin of omission and a sin of commission. When the law commands a citizen to do what he ought not to do, or not to do what he ought to do, he has no alternative but to disobey the law, and take the consequences. If the editor of the *Liberty Party Paper* will turn to the sixth chapter of Daniel, he will find an example of heroic fidelity, which has always commanded our entire approbation and profound admiration. Whether either of us could emulate the loyalty of Daniel, is a question it becomes neither of us to decide till we have been subjected to the trial.

Foreigners in Boston.—The Sanitary Commission of Massachusetts have made a report, which contains several curious facts in regard to the relative condition and growth of the foreign and native population in the city of Boston.

The increase of the foreign population in the five years since 1845, is 26,031, against a decrease of 1,879 native! Showing that foreigners have actually crowded the natives beyond the city limits.

The births in Boston in 1849 were 62 per cent. foreign and 38 per cent. native, although the ratio of population was 46 foreign to 54 native.

The Boston Society for the Prevention of Pauperism has received in the past five years applications for employment from 15,697 females, of whom 14,044 were foreigners; and out of 8,602 male applicants, 5,934 were foreigners.

The whole number of foreign paupers in the State in 1838 was 2,765. The increase in ten years was 268 per cent.

In 1849 the deaths by cholera in Boston were 707, of whom 572 were foreigners.

The whole number of persons who died in Boston in 1849 was 5,079; of whom 2 982 were foreigners—being 59 foreign to 41 native, in a population 46 foreign to 54 native.

The *Southern Press*, the other day, under the impression that it had proved the fact of a greater natural increase of population at the South than at the North, argued from this in favor of the healthier life and habits, moral and physical, of the People of the former section. The principle of the argument finds no countenance in the returns above: the poorer, more thriftless and unhealthy portion of the population of Boston, it seems, is the more prolific.

Calls for Conventions.—A call has been issued, signed by Judge Stevens and others, for a religious anti-slavery Convention for Indiana, to meet in Indianapolis, the 28th of this month. Another call is out for a State political anti-slavery Convention, to meet at the same place, on the 29th of May.

Edward William Johnston, formerly literary editor of the *National Intelligencer*, has taken charge of the *Richmond* (Va) *Whig*, as senior editor. He is a piquant, satirical, dashing writer, and a high-toned Conservative.

LITERARY NOTICES.

Appleton's Mechanics' Magazine and Engineers' Journal. Edited by Julius W. Adams, C. E. New York: D. Appleton & Co. For sale by R. Farnham, corner of 11th street and Penn. avenue, Washington, D. C.

Dictionary of Mechanics, Engine Work, and Engineering. Published and for sale as above. Nos. 24, 25, 26, and 27.

The publishers announce that the first volume of the Dictionary, containing twenty numbers, and over 2,000 engravings, is now ready for delivery. It is a great work, and deserves an extensive patronage.

The first four numbers of the Mechanics' Magazine are before us. It is a new monthly periodical, issued by the Appletons, in their usual admirable style, at three dollars per annum, or twenty-five cents a number, each number containing sixty-four pages, double columns, and numerous engravings and illustrations, very finely executed. It was commenced in January last, so that subscribers now may obtain files from the beginning. The design of the publishers is to furnish mechanics, engineers, artisans, and the friends of science generally, with a complete view of the advancement of mechanical science in this country and others, and to keep them advised of the discoveries and inventions in practical science, especially as it relates to mechanics and engineering.

The Methodist Quarterly Review. April, 1851. J. McClintock, D. D., Editor. New York: Lane & Scott. For sale by A. Gray, 7th street, Washington, D. C.

This number of the Review very happily unites thoroughness of research with variety of topics. It opens with an elaborate article on Philosophy and Faith, in the shape of a review of a work by J. D. Morrell, on the Speculative Philosophy of Europe, and also of an Essay on the Philosophy and Religion of the Nineteenth Century, by Emile Soisset.

London Labor and the London Poor. By Henry Mayhew. With Daguerreotype Engravings. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale by Franck Taylor, Pennsylvania avenue, Washington.

Part third of this interesting work has been received. It is attracting much attention.

Universalist Quarterly and General Review. April, 1851. Boston: A. Tompkins.

The table of contents is as follows:

Etruria Unburied; Tennyson's In Memoriam; Palestine; God Distributeth Sorrows: Christ's Influence on Old Truths, an Evidence of his Messiahship; the Fugitive Slave Law—Our Duty—the Union; Rationalism in Germany; Literary Notices.

This Quarterly discusses moral principles with boldness and fidelity. It takes strong ground against the Fugitive Law, and all oppression, and reviews with severity the Rationalism of Germany.

Harper's New Monthly Magazine, No. XI. April, 1851. For sale as above.

This number contains portraits of Irving and Bryant, with pictures of their residences. Bennett's *Herald*, New York, finds great fault with the compliment paid Bryant, whom it denounces as a Free-Soiler. It would banish him from Parnassus, because he is an opponent of the Fugitive Slave Law. All the Divinities, it thinks, are "up" to slave-catching, and geniuses should not be above the same reputable business.

Some of the rivals of the Harpers are trying to raise a suspicion against this periodical of an anti-slavery taint. Fudge! The magazine, so far as we can see, is not designed to propagate any opinions at all. Our Southern readers can safely take it, without the slightest danger to the combustibles that surround them. The worst that can be said against the magazine is, that it maintains perfect neutrality on all political and moral controversies in this country, aiming to furnish pleasant reading to all sorts of people.

Sartain's Union Magazine. May, 1851. For sale by W. Adam, Penn. avenue, Washington.

The engravings in this number are abundant, and rich in beauty. It contains no less than thirty-five original articles.

Graham's Magazine. Philadelphia. For sale as above.

Flora, a beautiful portrait, is one of the finest engravings we have ever seen. The prolific James has a good story in the present number. "A Lay of the Autumn," by Helen Irving, or, rather, Miss Anna Philips, is an exquisite poem, in which the stricken heart finds hope, even in autumnal gloom:

"Though all beneath thy drooping eyes
Be shorn of beauty, dark and drear,
In grief's chill season promise lies,
As in the Autumn of the year.

"For, deep within the inner heart,
Beats on a pulse of glorious life,
Widening the circles of the soul,
And waking germs with beauty rife.

"And buds of richest, rarest growth,
Are folded, leaf by leaf, in gloom,
That in the air of Mays to come
Shall fling their fragrance and their bloom"

FANEUIL HALL CLOSED AGAINST DANIEL WEBSTER.

From the Boston Courier.

"On Monday evening, the Mayor and Aldermen went into secret session for the purpose of acting on the following petition:

To the Honorable Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Boston:

"The undersigned respectfully ask the use of Faneuil Hall on the 17th day of April, 1851, for the purpose of a public reception of the Hon. Daniel Webster, and to consult on the public good.

"Signed by George G. Smith and over one hundred other substantial citizens, of both political parties."

After some proceedings had taken place in private, the doors were opened, and the following action on the foregoing petition was reported:

"Upon the petition of George G. Smith and others, for the use of Faneuil Hall for a public meeting on the 17th instant,

"*Resolved*, That in view of the recent action of this Board upon other similar applications, and of the present excited state of the public mind, it is inexpedient to grant the use of the Hall for the purposes asked for."

The vote on the adoption of the resolution stood as follows:

Yeas—Aldermen Briggs, Clark, Grant, Kimball, and Monroe.

Nays—Aldermen Holbrook, Rogers, and Smith.

It was not necessary for the Mayor to vote, but it is understood that he declared himself strongly against the resolution.

Yesterday afternoon, in consequence of the general excitement occasioned by this, the Mayor and Aldermen met again in secret session, and a proposal was made to rescind the order. After two hours' debate the question was taken, and it appeared that there were for rescinding the resolve, the Mayor, Aldermen Holbrook, Rogers, and Smith—4. Against reconsidering—Aldermen Briggs, Clark, Grant, and Munroe—4. The vote being a tie, the original resolution stands.

Mr. Moses Kimball was present, but would not vote. We do not learn that he assigned any reasons."

The same body had previously laid upon the table a resolution to invite President Fillmore to the city, &c.

The action of the Board in refusing Faneuil Hall to Mr. Webster is perfectly consistent, but, if we understand the matter, by no means creditable to them. It had rejected some time before an application by Stephen C. Phillips, and other highly respectable citizens, for the use of the Hall to hold a Public Meeting in opposition to the Fugitive Law, and of course could not with any show of decency grant its use to the supporters of that law and friends of Mr. Webster. In both cases, its action was wrong. All classes of citizens have a right to be heard in old Faneuil Hall, which has been too long and gloriously identified with the cause of Free Discussion, to be shut at this late day against the free expression of opinions.

Great Storm at the East.—The *Boston Bee* of last week says:

"One of the severest storms ever known on our coast commenced on Tuesday night, and has continued up to the present hour with unabated fury. On every hand we hear of great loss of property. Many lives have been lost, vessels wrecked, and the hand of destruction seems mad with rage.

"A great portion of the commercial part of the city is more or less submerged. At twelve o'clock yesterday, noon, Commercial, Central, Long, India, T, Rowe's, and other wharves southward, were under water, at places, from three to six feet deep.

"Most of the streets near the wharves were impassable, from the great quantity of water driven up. The cellars in Ann, North Market, India, Broad, Sea, and several other streets, were more or less flooded with water. Families have been driven from their abodes, and with no place for shelter. We saw several groups of children, varying from the infant to the boy and girl of ten years, thoroughly drenched near India street.

[Here follows a catalogue of damages, filling two columns of the Bee.]

"THE DUTY OF FREE SOIL VOTERS."

We are pleased to see that the views we have expressed from time to time in relation to the duty of anti-slavery voters, agree in the main with those recently put forth by the Free Soil Press. We continue to quote from our contemporaries.

From the Painesville (O.) Telegraph.

THE DUTY OF FREE SOIL VOTERS.

It is true that we may be the "third party"—the "balance of power." But we possess the same numerical strength now we ever did. Look back, and see what we have accomplished With but comparatively few voters, we have forced the two greater parties to acknowledge our power and the justice of our cause. We have in the United States Senate, a Hale, a Chase, a Seward, a Fish, a Wade, and others who are equally reliable upon a slavery test. In the House, we have many able and honest men who can give direction to its proceedings. But the most brilliant triumphs may be read in the Constitution of California, which has been recognised by Congress; and in that of New Mexico, which Territory will ere long be admitted as a State with the "anti-slavery proviso." And, further, look at the South, and there we witness the growing hostility to slavery, as is evidenced in the Colonization efforts, as well as in the direct movements towards emancipation.

The subject upon which we are writing, "The Duty of Free Soil Voters," is beginning to excite the attention of the editors and writers who are devoted to the cause. Several admirable articles have appeared in the *National Era*, which we, in the main, endorse. The proposition to maintain our distinct national organization has our most hearty approval. We must make no concessions to the other parties; we cannot make any and be honest. Let them have the little offices of profit; our friends should strike higher. We can manage to control the legislation of the country, and thus effect great results, if not immediately, in time to come.

We can see no inducement for a man who has heretofore acted with us to "bolt" at this juncture. Why should one who originally belonged to the Whig party go back to his old partisan friends? That party has deserted every principle for which it once contended—it has adopted the "Baltimore Platform." Let him who doubts this turn to the Message of President Fillmore, and study it carefully. If he can point out any material difference between the doctrines he advocates and those contended for by the Democrats, we will surrender our views on the subject, and bid him "return to his first love." Why should one who originally belonged to the Democratic party go back to his old partisan friends? That party, which is decrepid with age and bad medication, has no longer anything to contend for. We do not see upon any of its national banners a single inscription which may not also be seen upon the banners of their ancient opponents.

The great political topic now is Slavery. Shall this institution be fostered by Government; and by the men, money, and *religion* of the North? Shall it be extended to territory now free? Shall it not be abolished where there is constitutional power to do so? Shall the Fugitive Law remain upon the statute books? These are among the questions to be decided by the voters of this country. We appeal candidly to all intelligent citizens: Do either of the old parties present questions of greater importance? We think not.

We say, then, let us maintain our national organization—let us, when the proper time arrives, select candidates for President and Vice President—and let every Free-Soiler vote for them. In every Congressional, Senatorial, and Assembly district, let our friends organize, and vote their principles into office, if not their men.

From the Mount Vernon (O.) Times.

LET US BE UP AND DOING.

Anti-slavery men must understand each other, and work together. The cause of Freedom calls for concert of action among its friends. The *present* is an important time. Soon a Presidential campaign is to be entered upon. Are we *prepared* to make our voices heard and our influence felt? If not, how shall we get our armor completely on?

This is the great question now. Some say let us have a State, while others are in favor of a National Convention. There are reasons in favor of both, but we must have one at a time. Don't let *all* the time be spent in planning, without some action.

Let anti-slavery men wake up, and get the friends of their respective States aroused.

State Conventions first, and then a National one, seems to us the proper course. Shall Ohio take the lead, and hold her Convention at some early day?

Mount Vernon is a central point, and the facilities for getting here are good. What say the friends throughout the State to holding a Convention here?

The fourth of July would be a favorable time, and that day ought to be again consecrated to the cause of Freedom. We make these suggestions, and hope to hear from others. Perhaps an earlier day, or a different place, may be preferred—*speak out*, and let us know what you think about the matter.

Every one who feels on this subject *knows* that something *must* be done. *What is it? How and when shall it be done?* are the questions.

From the Ashtabula (O.) Sentinel.

STATE CONVENTION.

Dr. Bailey, of the *National Era*, proposes that the Free Democracy meet in State Conventions, for reorganization and more efficient action.

The importance of such a movement in Ohio is most obvious. Our new Constitution will be adopted in June. In October, our first election will be held under it. It will be am important election. Our doctrines and policy should be proclaimed anew. They should be laid before the people of every county in the State. All that is necessary for the success of our measures is to make our doctrines understood. All are now conscious that the old parties cannot guide the popular feeling. The people cannot longer be controlled by timid, servile politicians. The old issues of sub-treasury, tariffs, and banks, have lost their charm. The *right of man to himself, to his life, his intellect, his liberty*, is regarded as of higher importance. This is the favorable time to move. Let us meet, deliberate, reorganize for the campaign, and bear onward the flag of Freedom. What say our friends? Let us hear from Mr. Vaughan, of the *True Democrat*. He stands upon the watch-tower. Let him give the word, and let it be repeated along the line.

From the Ohio Star.

ORGANIZATION.

We like the suggestion of the *Ashtabula Sentinel* in reference to the holding of a State Convention. We are glad the suggestion comes from that source. Coming from a true and reliable quarter, it will command confidence—none will suspect selfish designs.

The hearty endorsement of the *Chardon Free Democrat* is well. Worthy is he to second the motion.

We would add our humble voice in favor of the movement, and say by all means let a State Convention be held.

The time and place mentioned by the *Chardon Free Democrat* seem to be judicious. We hope before the first of August a National Convention of the friends of freedom and humanity will have been held, and the action of a State Convention following that would be much more efficient.

Pursuant to suggestions made by Samuel Lewis through the *Era*, and the response of the editor of the *Era*, we hope a call for a National Convention will soon be issued.

Americans in Nicaragua.—The New Orleans *Picayune* has advices from Nicaragua to the 5th instant, through Mr. Hall, a merchant in Granada, according to which a deadly hostility has sprung up among the natives against the Americans—a hostility engendered by British influence. We should attach more credit to the news, were it not stated that fifteen of our countrymen had been murdered in the course of twenty-five days, and eight hundred of them had left the country. Of course, if the British consul has used his influence in provoking the natives to such outrages, our Government will attend to the matter. We suppose the facts will soon be known.

Newspapers in New York.—The number of newspapers published in the State of New York, according to an official return, is 56 daily, and 402 weekly.

HON. ROBERT RANTOUL, JR.

The speech of this gentleman at the Democratic Convention, held at Lynn, just before the late trial for the election of members of Congress in the vacant districts of Massachusetts, has excited a great deal of altercation, not only on account of the signal ability with which it discusses the great question of the day, but because of the indication which it affords of the popular current which is setting against the Fugitive Slave Law. It is not merely the opinion of an individual. Democracy, speaking through the lips of the ablest and most distinguished Democrat of New England, condemns that law as unconstitutional and inhuman, and demands its total repeal. It is fitting that such a man should be her mouthpiece. His speech is precisely such as we had a right to expect from him. Unlike too many of the prominent politicians of both parties, he has never degraded himself by any unmanly concessions to the slave power; and if he has not heretofore been found in the van of the opponents of slavery, he has at least the negative merit of refusing, under temptations, influences which few have resisted, to place any obstacle in their way, or utter a single word of censure or discouragement. His sympathies, always on the right side, needed but the stimulus of a great occasion, like the enactment of the Fugitive Slave Law, to become active enough to press into their service all the powers of his intellect, the vast resources of his learning, and his well-earned political influence. He has, therefore, no occasion for retractions, evasions, or uncomfortable explanations. He takes no new ground. He condemns no previously uttered opinion. He comes to the advocacy of freedom with clean hands, and, whether viewed as a politician or as a lawyer, no man has a better right to vindicate law and Democracy against the reproach and shame of the detestable enactment in question, than himself. He has never been able to see any necessary connection between slavery and Democracy, and has not hesitated to express his opinion that the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial wheels of the General Government would run quite as smoothly on free as on slave territory. In brief, he has been in favor of the abolition of slavery where it exists under the legislation of Congress. As many as ten or twelve years ago, the vigilant and venerable editor of the *Richmond Enquirer* read him a smart lecture for venturing to say something of this sort in a letter to some of his friends. The Virginian was a great stickler for the *name* of Jefferson; his complaint against Rantoul was, that the latter was equally strenuous in the support of Jefferson's *principles*.

The Democracy of Massachusetts will stand by Robert Rantoul. He has been, for the last fifteen years, their acknowledged leader. They are justly proud of his intellectual power, his learning, and eloquence. They regard him as a far safer constitutional expounder than the father of the Fugitive Slave Law. The Pennsylvanian and other slave-democratic papers, which are attempting to read him out of the Democratic family, would do well to look at the result of the late trial for a Congressional election in his district. Before that trial was made, his bold and manly argument against the Fugitive Slave Law had been placed in the hands of all the voters of the district. Everybody knew his position—that he had repudiated Hunkerism and slavery, and had raised his powerful voice in favor of the repeal of the Fugitive Law. The *Boston Post*, the organ of the miserable remnant of servile Democrats in Massachusetts, withdrew his name from its columns as candidate for Congress. Every effort was made by Hunkers, of both parties, to prejudice the masses of his old political friends against him. Under these circumstances the trial was made, and his vote was increased by hundreds, and his triumphant election at the next trial rendered morally certain.

We have known Robert Rantoul well for many years. Always progressive, yet with slower steps than we could have wished, he has at last planted his foot upon the platform of the great free party which is destined to triumph in every State of the Union. Cool, cautious, and firm, he has assured himself of the impregnable strength of his position, and may well laugh to scorn the threats and denunciations of those who read, in this bold movement of a sagacious and far-seeing statesman, the prophecy of their own discomfiture and ruin.

J. G. W.

CALIFORNIA.

The letter of which we subjoin an extract contains much interesting information concerning California. It is from a highly intelligent settler in the new State. The danger, it seems, is from a division of California, and the conversion of the southern portion into a slave State. We have watched anxiously for some indication of healthful anti-slavery sentiment in the press of California, but all her newspapers are decidedly Hunkerish. That there is a low tone of feeling in regard to slavery we infer from the fact that Judge Heydenfeldt, one of the most prominent of the Democratic candidides for the United States Senate, is an open advocate of the extension of slavery:

"San Francisco, *March* 4, 1851.

"Of the gold I need only say, new discoveries are being made every week, and I have no doubt it will continue to compensate the laborer bountifully for many years to come. As an agricultural country, it is superior to most, and equal to the best, of the old States. But little has yet been done in the way of farming; but in horticulture many are engaged, and their success is utterly incredible. I have seen onions weighing 4½ pounds. They sold a few months since at $1 per pound. Now they can be had at less than half that price. Potatoes grow as large, and are of a superior quality. They are now eight cents per pound, while the Sandwich Island potato brings but six. Beets, parsnips, turnips, cabbage, in short, every kind of garden vegetable, grows far above the ordinary size in the Atlantic States; and, what is still more important, they grow all the year. In the middle of December I visited some of the gardens near this city. They presented a beautiful appearance. Some but just above the ground, some fit for the table. Even the tender pea—I saw some in bloom, some ready for use, and some nearly ripe. The grape, too, flourishes in this latitude. In the southern part of the State we have all the fruits of the tropics. I spent the last winter there. The past I have spent here. I am so delighted with the climate that for it alone, if for no other cause, I shall spend the remainder of my days here.

"*March* 5.

"Men who hope to promote their own ends thereby are making desperate efforts to rally their forces and organize on the old Democratic and Whig platforms, which have no more to do with the true interests of California than they have with those of the moon.

"Some four or five weeks since, the Whig organ of this city announced a Union meeting to come off in a few days, and promised to give, the next day, a list of the signers to the call. The editor had not got his cue, or had not learned that the attempt to get up a Union party in the East had proved a failure. He made the discovery before the next publication, and we have heard no more of the Union meeting, except by way of ridicule in the other papers. One paper in this city has said that 'in a contest between the North and the South, California will of course side with the South.' No paper has ventured to call in question the correctness of that opinion, although most of the editors profess to be opposed to slavery, and I doubt whether one of them would raise a manly voice against an open attempt to introduce slavery into the State. We have merchants and tavern-keepers, who were strong anti-slavery men at home, who would not lose the sale of a pair of socks, a meal's victuals, or a glass of whiskey, to save California from the curse of slavery. I do not anticipate an attempt to change our Constitution so as to introduce slavery here, although that is talked of. The favorite project of the slavery-extensionists has been to divide the State, and make a slave State of the southern part. This has been much talked of among the lobbies at San Jose, and may yet be introduced into the Legislature before they adjourn. We greatly need an independent press, but I doubt whether one could be sustained.

"Judge Heydenfeldt, a candidate for the United States Senate, openly advocates the extension of slavery. His supporters were mostly Democrats. The other candidates, I presume, would have no objection to the extension of slavery. One good may result from the failure to elect a Senator. If the question of slavery-extension can only be brought before the people, I think they would send men to the Legislature who would elect a man of different principles. But that if is in the way. We have no press to bring the question before the people. If I could find one here that would do it, I would freely devote to the work as much of my time as in this expensive country I can spare."

☞ We noticed briefly the proceedings of the Convention referred in the following communication, and published the letter of Mr. Chase addressed to it.—*Ed. Era.*

Castine, Me., *April* 15, 1851.

To the Editor of the National Era:

As I have not yet seen in your columns any notice of our State Convention to oppose the Fugitive Slave bill, I send herewith a copy of the *Inquirer* extra, containing the proceedings, &c., in the hope that you will publish some of the resolutions. Hon. Stephen C. Foster, President of the Convention, was a Democrat up to 1848; has been a member of both branches of our Legislature, and President of the Senate. Theophilus Cushing, one of the Committee on Resolutions, was Whig and Free Soil candidate for Representative to Congress from the 5th district at the last election.

Since the State Convention, County Conventions have been held in Somerset, Franklin, Oxford, Cumberland, Lincoln, and Washington, besides many local meetings in various parts of the State, showing that the spirit of Freedom and attachment to true Democratic principles is by no means extinct in Maine.

The Senator elect from our district—the Hancock Western—is a member of the Hamlin section of the Democratic party, and is strongly opposed to the Fugitive bill. He succeeds one of the opposite faith in that respect.

Our Congressional District, the 7th, has the dishonor of being represented by Thomas J. D. Fuller, whose votes on the side of freedom have been few and far between. It is some consolation, however, that at the election last fall he ran far behind his ticket, receiving a very small plurality; many honest Democrats refusing to vote for him, on account of his shameful pro-slavery course. If the Fugitive Slave bill had passed the House before our election, he would doubtless have been defeated, many who then supported him declaring that he should never have received their votes, if they had supposed that his name would have been recorded in favor of that hateful measure.

In district No. 4, Charles Andrews, Democrat, by writing a circular in which he extolled his own fidelity to freedom, and sending it over the district—by pledging himself to influential members of the Free Soil party to maintain their principles—took from Isaac Reed, the Whig Free Soil candidate a sufficient number of votes to secure his own election; in fact, he acknowledged that he owed his success to Free Soil men. But he has a ready shamefully violated his pledges. He made a pro-slavery speech at the Union meeting at Bath, (the only one of that kind that has been held in Maine,) and in other parts of his district he has this winter attempted to defend the Compromise measures, though report says with rather poor success.

Yours, &c. W.

New York, *April* 20, 1851.

To the Editor of the National Era:

Rarely seeing your paper, I am not able to treat those who criticise my letters therein with due courtesy. The number of the 17th inst. fell into my hands, however, and I have to thank you for the few words of reply you gave to the writer who comments upon my remarks upon the comparative liberalism — practical Christianity — of Turkey and the European and American world. You said in substance just what I should have written, but for your kind attention.

Liberalist.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

By the steamer Prometheus, at New York, from Chagres, intelligence ten days later has been received from California. The dates are up to the 15th March.

The indications are in favor of a dry season. Business is reviving.

Some excitement had been occasioned in San Francisco by the arraignment of the editor of a newspaper called the *Herald*, for an article reflecting upon the integrity of the Court. He was cited to appear on the charge of contempt, and, after a full examination was fined $500, and ordered to be committed till the fine was paid. He refused to pay, and was committed. A meeting was called, and resolutions were adopted censuring the Judge, and calling upon him to resign. The Judge was immovable, and the *Courier* says the storm soon blew over.

On the 12th March a fire broke out in Nevada, and continued to rage till the city was reduced to ashes.

After the postponement of the Senatorial election, the Legislature went to work in earnest, and passed several bills of importance, among them, one for the establishment of a common school system.

A fatal affray had occurred at Sonora, growing out of an attempt on the part of certain miners to take possession of a portion of ground claimed by Joshua Holden. Holden with his friends resisted, and a general fight was the result, in which several men on both sides were killed. The affair had not terminated, and more mischief was apprehended.

Lynch law continues to be enforced. Two men were lately hung on the Consumnes river.

"On Friday night, about ten o'clock, a teamster came to the rancho of Messrs. Gage & Almond, and informed them that 'some men were below, attempting to cross the river with stock, and were having a hell of a time.'

"Messrs. Gage & Almond and others started in pursuit, and arrested two men and recovered the horses.

"The examination was made at the corral, and the evidence was perfectly satisfactory that the horses had just been stolen. They were perfectly dry and smooth, and exhibited conclusive evidence that they had not been driven any distance.

"The prisoners were then arraigned, and a motion made to give them a trial by jury, but the proposition was hooted down by the incensed crowd. A motion was then made that they be hung at once, which was carried by acclamation.

"They were called on to make a confession, being told that they had but half an hour to prepare for the solemn change that awaited them. They gave their names as James Baxter of Maine, and Charles Simmons of Massachusetts. The names, however, may have been assumed. The prisoners were then told that their time had nearly elapsed. They seemed to be much excited, and begged, 'For God's sake, let us live a little longer!' Five minutes more were given them, during which time one of the prisoners called on the other, saying, in a low tone of voice, 'Let us tell them all about it;' to which the other replied, 'No, no—hush.'

"When the half hour had elapsed, they were told that their time had come. Lariats were brought, nooses made, and the guilty wretches hung up!

"This took place at 12 o'clock last night, (Friday,) and their bodies were still suspended this morning, when our informant left, although persons were engaged in digging two graves."—*Sacramento Transcript*, 12*th*.

This was simple murder, and the persons engaged in it were no better than those they hung.

MARKETS.

Breadstuffs.—The principal stock of flour being in the hands of the Flour Company, the price has been put up to $5.50 per sack of 100 pounds for Chili of fine quality. Barley for a while has had an advancing tendency, but increased arrivals have put it down again to 7 cents. Oats in fine order would bring 5½ to 6 cents.

Boots and Shoes.—Of the former article we have an overstock.

Bricks.—This article is better, and sales of a good article are making at $25 per thousand, at the ship.

Coals.—Anthracite has sold rather better, say $12. The range of prices for soft is from $7.50 to $10.50.

Clothing.—In this line we are altogether overstocked, and it will take a good while to relieve the market.

Hay has recently been sold as high as 5½ cents per pound, in quantities.

Domestics.—The demand is moderate, and prices are low, the demand being much less than formerly. Some shipments have been made to Canton.

Hardware.—Sales can only be made at retail to any advantage.

India Goods.—The demand is very moderate, and prices are low.

Lumber.—We have no change to notice. The stock is large, and it will take twelve months to relieve the market.

Oregon Prices Current.—Beef, 10 a 15, retail, market; pork, 16 a 20 per pound; butter, 75 a $1 per pound; cheese, 50 per pound; flour, $7.50 per cwt., $15 per barrel; wheat, $1.50 a $2 per bushel; oats, $2.50 per bushel; coffee, 30 per pound; tea, $1 a $1 50 per pound; molasses, $1 per gallon; tobacco, 37½ a $1 25 per pound; rice, 15 per pound; eggs, 75 a $1; lard, 40 per pound; iron, 10 a 16; nails, 12 a 16; cooking stoves, $60 a $90; lumber, $40 a $50 per 1000.

FROM OUR CANADIAN CORRESPONDENT.

Toronto, *April* 18, 1851.

To the Editor of the National Era:

Mr. George Thompson has lately given two lectures on the East Indies, before respectable and numerous audiences. He had been charged by the *Patriot*, a paper published here daily, which is opposed to those principles of Free Trade of which Mr. Thompson is the advocate, and in its strictures had charged him with being the paid advocate of bodies of whose views he was the interested exponent; and he took the opportunity of vindicating himself and denying the aspersion at a soirée of the Mechanics' Institute, at which he delivered an address last Thursday evening; during which he gave an account of his early life and subsequent career, and attributed his ability as a public speaker, and the endowments of a richly stored mind, to the advantages he has derived from those institutions.

He told his auditory that they saw before them a man who had been deprived of the ordinary means of education in early life, having never been a week at school during his existence. Having learnt to read, in some manner which he did not explain, his first stock of knowledge, he said, was derived from a few books which occupied some sixteen inches in length. When he was still young, the first Mechanics' Institute was established in London, at the meetings of which he was a regular attendant, where he listened to lectures replete with information, treasured up the knowledge he thus acquired, and very soon ascertained that he had the ability of communicating to others that which he had acquired. He had availed himself of that ability in after years, to inspire sentiments of virtue or of rational liberty in others, wherever Providence had directed his steps. Man, he said, is endowed with powers, which, although they may ripen here, immortality can alone bring to perfection—with a mind that is capable of expanding with advancing years, and with a spiritual growth that never ends; for God has fixed no limits to man's capacity, and imposed no restriction on his attainments, save that which arises from the misapplication of talents with which he is intrusted.

He advised his youthful hearers to be "up and doing," and not to be disheartened by the laborious pursuits in which they might be engaged, or their adverse position in society; for, although he had read thousands of volumes, yet, until he was twenty-five years of age, he had labored for his daily bread. It had been his practice, he said, since he first knew the value of knowledge, to take care of the moments, and to make diligent use of those fragments of time which too many throw away. But to succeed as he had done, it was necessary that the youthful aspirant must strike a blow at his own indulgences and his own enslaving lusts.

He had been charged in a paper at Toronto, he said, with selling his talents to the highest bidder; but he emphatically denied the charge, and challenged the man who had made it to retract his assertion, or to bring forward his proof. If he had so prostituted his talents, he should not have been here identified with the shivering, panting captive, but would have been seated by the side of the oppressor at Washington, or at the beck of a Minister in England.

Circumstances, he continued, early developed in him the power of public speaking; and he would tell that editor, that he had rejected offers, which he trusted would never be made to him; and that to this day it was his pride and boast, that he had never entered into a money bargain for the employment of his talents—that he had never possessed more wealth than would keep the wolf from the door; and if he should leave his children no other legacy, he would leave them a name untarnished by that reproach with which he had been assailed. He had ever been the advocate of that which he deemed to be right; and if he had been mistaken in his course, that must be evolved by time in the events of the future. He was no hireling, however; from his own funds he defrayed his passage, he travelled at his own expense—not for the purpose of pleasure, but for the suppression of an iniquitous Slave Law; and if he was poor, he was dignified by the declaration of a Scotchman, that

"Rank is but the guinea stamp,
The man's the gold."

The only objection I have heard urged against Mr. Thompson's mission, and the action of the members of the Anti-Slavery Society here, is, that it is an uncalled-for and improper interference with the domestic institutions and internal affairs of a foreign State. This is a legitimate ground of objection; but when the conductors of the *Patriot* went beyond this, made a personal attack, and charged him with venality, which they have not substantiated, people are apt to conclude that there is something more than is apparent in the opposition with which he has been assailed, and to infer that it is not quite as disinterested as they would have it appear.

The fact is, the *Patriot* is the organ of the Tory party here; as I before stated, it is therefore opposed to that more enlightened policy which has led the British Government to remove, as far as is practicable, those restrictions upon trade, which enlightened statesmen of the present day deem incompatible with its well-being and the welfare of mankind at large, and is also opposed to every species of reform, civil or religious; while the *Globe*, on the contrary, which is owned by a stanch and determined advocate of Emancipation, is the organ of the present liberal Government of Canada. Hence it is not improbable that party spirit, which is peculiarly virulent and implacable in the Colonies, may be at the bottom of the personal attack on Mr. Thompson.

Unfortunately, party spirit and religious differences poison society in all these Provinces, which may be considered in a transition state; what has been termed the family compact party, having been supplanted by men who are supposed to have the confidence of the people, and who must conduct the Government in accordance with their wishes, as expressed by their representatives, and who can remain in power only as long as they can commmand the support and confidence of the House of Assembly.

The result is, that the British population being divided into two parties, and their representatives acting in accordance with their views, and being about equally divided, gives the preponderance to the members from Lower Canada, who being chiefly Frenchmen, and non-progressive, exercise the most pernicious influence on the counsels of the country, and retard its advancement. Like the Irish members in the British House of Commons, as has been recently proved, their support is essential to the stability and existence of every ministry.

One of the consequences of this unfortunate state of things is, the contemplated removal of the seat of Government to Quebec, which will take place during the coming summer; although it will then have been only two years in Toronto, instead of four, as was originally contemplated.

Previous to the union of the two powers, subsequent to the rebellion of 1837–'38, the seat of Government of Lower Canada was at Quebec, and that of Upper Canada at Toronto. After the union, it was established for the entire province at Montreal, in Lower Canada. About two years since, a bill was passed by both Houses, granting compensation to persons who had lost property during the rebellion, not in consequence of the operations of the Queen's troops, but for the gratuitous and wanton destruction of property, the result of that vindictive feeling which unfortunately must ever attend civil war.

A bill so passed must necessarily have received the sanction of the Queen's representative; and the Earl of Elgin, who is still the Governor General, went down to the Parliament House, and gave his assent to the bill, which thus became a law. This was the signal for a most outrageous and lawless proceeding; a mob assailed the building, which was speedily enveloped in flames, involving the destruction of a valuable library containing rare and interesting records connected with the early history of the country that cannot be replaced, the Governor General was openly insulted; and the consequence was, the removal of the seat of Government to this place, with an understanding that it should remain here during four years, and then be transferred to Quebec for the subsequent four years—thus entailing a ruinous expense upon the province, putting the public officers to great inconvenience, and creating universal dissatisfaction.

I have not found the establishment of the seat of Government, either in the United States or British provinces, of any real or permanent advantage to the place in which it is situated. It leads to extravagant habits, checks public enterprise, and, to a certain extent, paralyzes its growth and retards its advancement. I therefore look upon it, that it would be a lasting advantage should it never return to Toronto, which, from its position on the direct route from the head of Lake Superior to the seaboard, on the Atlantic, possesses natural advantages that only require to be developed by an energetic people, and which must one day render it a city of much commercial importance.

On the other hand, Quebec is entirely too far distant from the centre of so extensive a country, for the locality of the seat of Government. The proper position is undoubtedly where Kingston is situated, at the junction of Lake Ontario with the St. Lawrence, and which, having at one time been honored with that distinction, might well put in a claim for its renewal.

Fears are also expressed, that if the seat of Government is removed, the French Canadians will be sufficiently powerful to retain it at Quebec; and this may be the case; for, although it is too far distant, in relation to the more intelligent and rapidly increasing population of Canada West, yet it would be a central situation, with reference to the other Powers, should a Federal Union, which has long been contemplated, take place. In that event, Upper and Lower Canada would probably again resume their separate local Legislatures, which the other provinces would retain; and one general Legislature, like the Congress of the United States, would then be held at Quebec, which is a strongly fortified city, and if properly defended, could never be taken by an enemy.

Another effect resulting from the passage of the Rebellion-Losses bill was the cry of "annexation," as absurd as it was unnatural, and which has already died a natural death. It originated with the British party, in a moment of impotent rage, and was fostered by disappointed ambition, but was never worthy of the attention it received in the United States.

Such a measure, besides, is not desirable on the part of the United States—they need no more territory than they already possess; and the immense country beyond their northern frontier, notwithstanding its monarchical institutions, is the abode of civil and religious liberty. What is most desirable, is freedom from local commercial restrictions, on both sides of the line, and the absence of these vexatious regulations, by which the passage of imports through the American territory into Canada is fettered at present, and by which the transporting of agricultural produce thence to the seaboard is now threatened.

Lines of railroad are in progress of construction, connecting the State of Maine, and even Massachusetts, with Quebec and Montreal, and the produce of the northwestern portion of the United States can at present be conveyed through the Welland canal to Oswego and Ogdensburg, and thence to New York and Boston; or it may be sent to Montreal, and thence forwarded through the Chambly canal, and ultimately by railroads to seaports in the United States; or it may be shipped from the latter place, or Quebec, in American vessels, to Europe or other parts of the world.

The best friends of the two countries, therefore, and the truest philanthropists, are those who, by every means in their power, will foster and promote an intercourse in which national distinctions should be merged, and the designs of Providence and the inventions of man would be made to promote the general good.

An election comes off to-day for the county of Haldimand, at which McKenzie, who was for some time expatriated for the part he took in the Upper Canada rebellion, and who subsequently, while employed in the custom-house at New York, surreptitiously obtained and published the letters of the former collector, which were deposited in a room to which he had access, will, it is thought, be the successful candidate. He is a regular grievance hunter, a sort of political jackall, and will be a very useful member in prolonging a session.

W.

LETTER FROM LONDON.

London, *April* 4, 1851.

To the Editor of the National Era:

On Tuesday evening, in the House of Lords, Lord Torrington, in anticipation of attack in the House of Commons hereafter from Mr. Baillie, attempted to defend his atrocities perpetrated in Ceylon. He made a long and able speech, but could not afford any real justification of his conduct. In the course of the debate an allusion was made to the Duke of Wellington, and his opinions in reference to martial law, when the old Duke arose, declaring that he protested against any comparison between himself and the hero of Ceylon!

The somewhat famous Agusta Talbot case has been decided by the Lord Chancellor. She has been taken from the Convent, and will soon enter society. There has been perhaps too much noise about the affair, but most certainly the Catholic Bishop of Clifton has tergiversated grossly about the young lady.

I have noticed recently in the *New York Recorder*, an American religious journal, a series of able articles on "Infidelity in England," wherein the author classes Tennyson, Mrs. Browning, the Howitts, Grote, and others, as infidels, or on the road to infidelity. He says particularly that William and Mary Howitt never attend church anywhere—have no creed, perhaps inclining to Swedenborgianism.

I feel impelled to deny the inference which almost every one would draw, that the Howitts are infidels. Such is not the case. It was only last Sabbath evening that I heard from the lips of William Howitt, at his own fireside, a powerful argument in favor of the Bible as a revelation, and also in defence of its miracles. He and Mary Howitt that day attended church, as is their usual custom, and therefore you can judge with what truth it can be said that they are infidels.

It is not true that William and Mary Howitt do not believe in retribution hereafter. They do; but not in *eternal* retribution.

There can be no possible use in exaggerating the religious delinquencies of distinguished people—especially such people as the Howitts, who are loved wherever their works are known.

It is to be lamented that Harriet Martineau has avowed herself an atheist, and among all her friends there are none who more deeply deplore her error than those who move in the literary circles of London. That there is a general tendency among the *literati* of England at present *towards* infidelity cannot be denied, but it is wrong to style either Tennyson or the Howitts disbelievers of the Bible.

On Wednesday night, in the House of Commons, Mr. Lock King's County Franchise bill was brought up for a second reading. This is the bill, you will recollect, on which the Government was defeated a few weeks ago, but their promises since have been such that Mr. King's motion was defeated on its second reading. Lord John Russell declared that upon the opening of the next session he would bring in measures for extending the franchise.

To-night the long-expected Budget comes on—the amended Budget—and it remains to be seen whether it will satisfy the House and nation. Since the defeat of the Ministry, Sir C. Wood, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has been very tame and complaisant; but before he was the most stubborn man in the Cabinet.

Lord Stanley made a master-speech on Wednesday evening at a dinner given to him by the Merchant Tailors' Society. There is not perhaps an abler speaker in the country than himself, and he is well aware of it. He endeavored to excuse himself from the charge of inability to form a Government during the late crisis.

There has been a report in circulation about London that the United Service Club has refused to afford its usual privileges and courtesies to the commander of the United States frigate St. Lawrence, because she brought *goods* over to the Exhibition! Anything that savors of *commerce* or *business* is vulgar in the sight of the members of the United Service Club, and they refuse to allow their usual privileges to a distinguished foreign naval officer simply because, in obedience to his Government, he transports a cargo of goods for the Great Exhibition. He degrades himself to the level of a merchant-man. The *Times* comes out severely on the Club, and asks, if the report of their conduct be true, that every member of the Club be ostracised in every gentleman's house in London!

The American exhibitors in London held a public meeting at Freemasons' Tavern last Saturday evening. They are quite dissatisfied with the space of ground allotted to them, and blame the Government, Commissioners, &c. How much at fault the Commissioners are I do not know, probably somewhat, yet theirs is a most difficult position to fill—that of pleasing all the nations of the world. There are complaints from all quarters, England not excepted.

An interesting debate occurred last night in the House of Commons, in reference to the East India Company and its Government, and the management of affairs in India. The charter of the company expires next year, and before a renewal is granted its conduct up to the present time will be pretty thoroughly exposed. The despotic character of British power in the East cannot be denied, nor can any one deny that the natives have been cheated out of their rights. It is the old story—civilization against barbarism. The same unfeeling course has been pursued in America towards the Indians. With the Florida War in memory, no American can with fairness say much in reprehension of the course of Britain in the East.

The subject of the Jewish Disabilities was also discussed. Another bill is to be introduced by the Premier, and of course passed by the House for the *third* time. It remains to be seen whether the House of Lords will *dare* for a third time to reject the bill. Mr. Milner Gibson, in an able speech, hinted that the country would not bear with the Upper House, if it dared much longer to resist the general sentiment of the people.

The Duke of Brunswick on Wednesday made quite a remarkable aerial journey with Charles Green, the celebrated æronaut. Having an antipathy to sea-sickness and water, he proposed to cross to the Continent in a balloon, and on Wednesday ascended from Hastings. They arrived near Bologne, in France, distant 60 miles, in five hours, and the gallant Duke immediately took his seat in a train of cars for Paris! Mr. Green packed up his balloon, and retured to Hasting *via* boat and railroad, making, as he says, a delightful journey. While at sea, they descended so low as to talk with the captains of several fishing smacks through a speaking trumpet.

The French journals are engaged in discussing the failures of Louis Napoleon to form a cabinet of *solution*. Eugene Sue, the novelist, has been elected President of the Second Committee in the Assembly against the Duc de Broglie.

In Germany, nothing further is done by the Dresden Conferences, and they promise to accomplish nothing. The people are quiet, and the success of despotism complete. In Italy, there is more agitation than elsewhere.

Julian.

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

STATE LAW AND FEDERAL LAW IN MASSACHUSETTS.

To the Editor of the National Era:

On Saturday, April 12, at a very early hour in the morning, the alleged fugitive slave, Sims, was taken from the Court-house, the place of his confinement as well as his trial, and marched down Court and State streets, surrounded by a large body of armed men, to the end of Long Wharf, and placed on board the brig Acorn, a vessel chartered and fitted up for the purpose, and the wind being contrary, she was immediately towed down the harbor by a steamer, that had been kept in readiness for many hours with her steam up. The alleged slave was accompanied down the harbor by the city marshal and many officers, some of whom attend him to the place of destination. During the trial, or investigation, a whole regiment of men were kept in readiness to act, and in addition to these and the whole body of police and watchmen amounting to several hundred men. It was said that a body of U. S. troops, and two pieces of cannon, were in readiness at the navy yard. For further security, the temple of justice was surrounded with chains, and the vessel and crew that took the fugitive away were said to be armed, and all this was done to enforce law. The mayor of the city, as well as the city marshal, headed the force that took the slave on board, which force was composed chiefly, if not altogether, of the police of the city, and the arrest was made by some members of this body at night, on a false pretence, that the fugitive had stolen a watch; and the extradition was accomplished at an hour when the fewest possible number of citizens could be present to witness his departure.

Thus was the love of law made instrumental in the capture and delivery of the fugitive, contrary to the love of justice and of liberty. These proceedings have of course produced great excitement, both in the city and surrounding towns, and the question is asked by the lovers of law and order, why all this preparation, this array of force? Surely not solely on account of sympathy with an unknown ignorant colored man. A year or more since, a man was taken from the highest ranks of society, accomplished in science and in taste, surrounded by an amiable family, who have the sympathy of every member of the community. He was arrested upon no false pretences, was tried and condemned in open Court, with no chains enclosing it, and he was executed, without the aid of a single bayonet or weapon of offence. Can a community who acted thus, and in the case of such a man condemned to death, thus sympathize with a poor colored man condemned to slavery? Is there not something behind this—something stronger than death—to require so much force, and which must eventually overcome this force? Law is triumphant, as we have seen. Can we be supporters of law at one time, and not at another? Can law-makers be right in forcing such contradictions? Alas! is not the law of force substituted for the law of right and justice, which all men are so ready to obey, and which needs no soldiery, no bayonets, for its support?

Since the delivery of Sims, an investigation has been held by a committee of the Senate of this State, now in session, with reference to the alleged infraction of the laws of the State by the officers of the City Government, both in regard to the capture and imprisonment of Sims. This law was passed in consequence of the decision of the United States Court in the celebrated case of Prigg, which absolved the States from any responsibility in the return of fugitive slaves, and is as follows:

"No sheriff, deputy sheriff, coroner, *constable*, jailer, or other officer of this Commonwealth, shall hereafter arrest or detain, *or aid in the arrest or detention* or imprisonment in any jail, or other building belonging *to this Commonwealth, or* to any county, city, or town *thereof, of any person, for the reason that he is claimed as a fugitive slave.*"

A law was also passed by the State in 1837, which was designed more fully to protect personal freedom, and which is supposed to be sufficient to protect persons claimed as fugitive slaves, on the ground that a Commissioner's Court is unconstitutional, and not a court of competent jurisdiction. It is as follows:

"Sec. 1. If any person is imprisoned, restrained of his liberty, or held in duress, unless it be in custody of some public officer of the law, by force of a lawful warrant or other process, civil or criminal, issued by a court of competent jurisdiction, he shall be entitled, *as of right*, to the writ of personal replevin, and to be thereby delivered in the manner hereinafter provided."

"Sec. 3. *It shall be directed to the Sheriff of the County or his Deputy*, or to any of the Coroners thereof, and *shall be served by either to whom it shall be delivered* without delay."

These laws, it is contended by a large number of persons, who are neither Abolitionists nor Free Soil men, have been struck down and overthrown by the operation of the Fugitive Slave Law, and the State as well as the General Government are made instruments for slave-catching. Thus State pride has become aroused, and thousands throughout the State have become excited on these questions, who have been heretofore indifferent.

In his testimony before the Senate Committee, Mayor Bigelow admitted that he gave the order to the military to hold themselves in readiness, and at the expense of the city; and also that he gave the city marshal discretionary if not unlimited orders. The latter testified that he acted under the orders of the mayor and aldermen, and admits that the arrest was made and the prisoner held by the city police, as the United States officers had neither the address, the cunning, nor the force, necessary to effect the capture or delivery of any alleged fugitive. It is clear, then, that in this case the capture and delivery could not have been effected but with the aid and direct force of the City Government. The result of this investigation, therefore, seems to prove conclusively that the laws of the State are to be subservient in all cases to the laws of the United States; for here is a law of the State, made in conformity to a decision of the United States Courts, and therefore constitutional, overridden by the construction of a law of the United States of doubtful constitutionality, to say the least. In the Southern States, where State laws or local prejudices prevail, there is not the least difficulty; the State and the United States laws never come into collision, for the reason that the former are always enforced, even when unconstitutional, and are always held to be paramount; but in the Northern States, the very regard for law is leading a great number of persons to consider the question of State Rights, and what powers were conceded to the General Government in the original compact, and their own rights under it. The consequence is, that the whole State is becoming rapidly revolutionized, and the excitement is extending to all the New England States, if not even to New York. If is manifestly folly to conceal the true state of things: to represent the excitement as local, the numbers of those who are opposed to the Fugitive Slave Law as small, for its constitutionality is now as widely questioned as it is ably and openly denied. The state of public opinion in the cities of Boston and New York, so much influenced by wealth and fashion, if not by self-interest, is no criterion for that of New England; nor is it to be judged of by votes entirely: for numbers adhere to old party lines, who are disgusted with old party subserviency, and know not where else to go.

It has been proved, to be sure, that a slave could be sent back under the Fugitive Law by the force of public opinion in the city, which, however, will only last until the rapid change now going on in the public mind shall have made a little further progress, and which every case of this kind accelerates beyond measure. Then we may see the very persons now upholding the odious slave law, changing sides, and assuming to be the champions of liberty, while those who have borne the heat and burden of the day will be forgotten. The questions now at issue involve all that our fathers fought for, Freedom of Speech and Press, as well as the legal rights secured by the Constitution, for these have all been threatened, while the details of the Fugitive Slave Law affecting any white man's rights of freedom, conscience, and property, is bringing home to every mind the necessity of a stand against such encroachments upon freedom.

The Constitution, faithfully construed and administered, would prevent all collison between the State and General Governments; but as they are invariably decided at the South in favor of the former and in favor of Slavery, so will they be decided here in favor of the State and of Liberty. As the action of the Southern States in this respect is not held up as a sufficient cause for disunion, so will it be folly to make the action of the Northern States a cause for disunion, either way. If disunion comes, it must come from the South; and upon their heads must rest the responsibility.

W.

Lawyers in the United States.—Mr. Livingston, editor of the *Monthly Law Magazine*, has published a complete register of the lawyers of the United States, from which is compiled the following table:

Alabama	692	Minnesota	24
Arkansas	264	Mississippi	700
California (returns incomplete)	68	Missouri	584
Connecticut	335	New Hampshire	308
Delaware	50	New Jersey	307
District of Columbia	61	New Mexico	13
Florida	115	New York	4,374
Georgia	698	North Carolina	435
Illinois	710	Ohio	1,639
Indiana	732	Oregon	20
Iowa	243	Pennsylvania	1,739
Kentucky	886	Rhode Island	112
Louisiana	479	South Carolina	433
Maine	527	Tennessee	735
Maryland	543	Texas	499
Massachusetts	1,040	Vermont	442
Michigan	422	Virginia	1,278
		Wisconsin	477

The whole number is 21,979, or one to every 1,058 persons for the entire population. It is curious to note the operation of the law of demand and supply for everything. The proportion, for example, of lawyers to the population of the free States is one to every 1,004 persons, and to that of the slave States, one to every 1,122.

The *New York Evening Post*, putting the number of practicing lawyers at 20,000, and estimating their average income at $1,000 each, makes the annual cost of legal services in the United States twenty-one millions—an equivalent to the interest, at 6 per cent., on two thousand millions of dollars.

To this add salaries of judges, fees of constables and magistrates, pay of marshals and deputies, jailers and agents, court fees, jail charges, &c., and we shall have not less than thirty millions annually, the legal tax paid by Human Depravity and Infirmity for its offences and blunders.

Baltimore Market, April 21.—Beef cattle range from $3.50 to $4 25 per hundred pounds on the hoof, equal to 7 a 8.75 net, and averaging $3.87½ gross. Hogs, $6 50 a $7 per 100 pounds. Flour—Howard Street, $4 62; City Mills, $4 75; Susquehanna, $4.62. Red wheat, $1.05; white, $1.06. Corn, 62 a 64 cents. Oats, 40 a 42 cents.

ANTI-SLAVERY ANNIVERSARY.

The Anniversary of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society will be held (D. V.) in the Broadway Tabernacle, Tuesday, May 6th, at three o'clock, P. M., on which occasion an abstract of the Annual Report will be presented, with a set of Resolutions embodying the great principles of the Association. Addresses may be expected from several distinguished advocates of Human Freedom. The friends of Liberty are invited to attend.

A meeting for discussion and for business will be held in the Lecture Room of the Tabernacle, May 7th, beginning at nine o'clock, A. M. It is earnestly hoped that the friends of the cause throughout the United States will be represented at this meeting.

WILLIAM JAY,
LEWIS TAPPAN,
S. E. CORNISH,
THOMAS RITTER,
Committee of Arrangements.

☞ Anti-Slavery Editors are respectfully requested to give the above one or more insertions.

REMOVAL.

The Rooms of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society and of the American Missionary Association will be removed on the 1st of May, from No. 61 John street to No. 48 Beekman street, a few doors east of William street.

WILLIAM HARNED, *Office Agent.*

New York, April 17, 1851.

☞ Anti-Slavery Editors will please copy.

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"Nature is but the name for an effect
Whose cause is God."

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The subscriber publishes a large number of most valuable Books, very popular, and of such a moral and religious influence, that while good men may safely engage in their circulation, they will confer a *public* benefit, and receive a *fair compensation* for their labor.

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ROBERT SEARS,
181 William street, New York.

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April 24—4t

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.

CONTENTS OF No. 363.—Price, twelve and a half cents.

1. Ancient and Modern Eloquence.—*Blackwood's Magazine.*
2. Rovings in the Pacific.—*Spectator.*
3. Recollections of Edward Irving.—*New York Recorder.*
4. Convict Transportation to be Given Up.—*Morning Chronicle.*
5. Surprise and Capture of General Valencia.—*For the Living Age.*
6. Public Dinner to Macready, and his Farewell.—*Spectator and Daily News*
7. Robert Southey.—*Bentley's Miscellany.*
8. Poems by Hartley Coleridge.—*Examiner.*
9. Pascal's Provincial Letters.—*Morning Chronicle.*

SHORT ARTICLES.

Shower of Aerolytes. Cloud of Dust Obscuring the Sun. Death of Joanna Baillie. Massachusetts Medical Society and the Homeopathists. Destruction of Forests in Madeira

POETRY.

Christmas. To W. C. Macready, Esq. Reproof of Thanks. Resolution.

☞ *A New Volume has just commenced.*

Washington, *December* 27, 1845.

Of all the Periodical Journals devoted to literature and science, which abound in Europe and in this country, this has appeared to me to be the most useful. It contains indeed the exposition only of the current literature of the English language; but this, by its immense extent and comprehension, includes a portraiture of the human mind in the utmost expansion of the present age.

J. Q. ADAMS.

Published weekly, at six dollars a year, by
E. LITTELL & CO.,
Corner of Tremont and Bromfield streets, Boston.

☞ For sale by JOSEPH SHILLINGTON, corner of Four-and-a-half street and Pennsylvania avenue, Washington.

PROSPECTUS OF THE NATIONAL ERA.

VOLUME V.—1851.

Washington, District of Columbia.

G. BAILEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR; JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

THE NATIONAL ERA is an Anti-Slavery, Political, and Literary Newspaper.

A brief summary of the principles and measures we are prepared at all proper times to maintain, will serve to show the character and course of the *Era*.

We hold—

That Slavery is repugnant to Natural Right, the Law of Christianity, the Spirit of the Age, and the essential nature of our Republican Institutions:

That Emancipation, without compulsory expatriation, is a high duty, demanded alike by Justice and Expediency:

That there is but one safe and effectual mode of abolishing Slavery; and that is by law, to be enacted by the States in which it exists:

That Slavery can have no lawful being in Territory under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States:

That Congress is bound to exclude it from all Territory now belonging or that may hereafter belong to the United States:

That the American Union, as the bond of Peace, the organ of one Language and one Civilization, the medium of Free Trade, among the numerous States and Territories stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific shores of this Continent; as the Refuge of suffering millions from the Old World, and a Safeguard against its Ambition and Intrigue, is of priceless value to the Cause of Human Progress; and that there is enough intelligence and virtue in its members to extinguish Slavery, the single cause that disturbs its harmonies, impairs its energies, alloys its benefits, and threatens its stability:

That the Federal Constitution ought to be so amended as to place the election of President in the hands of the People, directly, and to limit his term of office to four years, making him thereafter ineligible; and to be still further amended so as to give to the People of the several States the election of their United States Senators, changing the term of office from six to four years:

That the Post Office Department ought to be separated from the Chief Executive, the Postmaster General and all the local Postmasters being elective by the People, and the power of removal for just and sufficient cause lodged in the hands of the Postmaster General:

That postage on all newspapers, of a certain size, for all distances, should be one cent; on all letters, under half an ounce, for all distances, two cents prepaid; that the franking privilege should be abolished; and negotiations be instituted for the purpose of securing free exchanges within reasonable limits, between the newspapers of Europe and the United States, and a reduction to the lowest point possible in the postage on letters passing between foreign countries and our own:

That the public lands should be held as a trust for the benefit of the People of the United States, to be granted in limited quantities to actual settlers who are landless:

That the homestead ought to be exempt from sale or execution for debt:

That restrictions on commerce among the several States, and between all nations, ought to be removed:

That Congress ought to make due appropriations for improvements demanded by the interests of commerce with foreign nations, or among the States, provided they be not purely local in their benefits, and be not proper subjects for State or individual enterprise.

In maintaining our views, we shall fearlessly use the rights, while we respect the courtesies, of Free Discussion, conceding to those who may differ from us, what we claim for ourselves, the credit of honest motives.

Such reports of the proceedings of Congress will be given as will convey a correct idea not only of its action, but of its spirit and policy.

The Foreign Correspondence of the *Era* is at least equal in value and interest to that of any Journal in the country.

The Literary Miscellany of the *Era* is amply provided for. John G. Whittier, the Poet, will continue Corresponding Editor. By an arrangement with that popular writer, Grace Greenwood, her services have been secured for the *Era exclusively*, beginning on the first of January next. Mrs. Emma D. E. N. Southworth, the American Novelist, who first became known to the public through the columns of our paper, has engaged to furnish a story for our new volume.

Among other contributors we may name Dr. William Elder, the Hon. Henry B. Stanton, Martha Russell, Mary Irving, Alice and Phœbe Carey, and Mrs. H. B. Stowe—names familiar and attractive.

Having thus made ample arrangements for the General Departments of the Paper, we shall devote ourselves more particularly to Anti-Slavery and Political Discussions, taking care to keep our readers advised of all important reform movements and current events.

Terms—two dollars per annum, *always payable in advance.*

Every subscriber renewing his subscription, and sending us two NEW subscribers, shall have the three copies for five dollars. Clubs: five copies for eight dollars; ten copies for fifteen dollars.

All communications, on business of the *Era* or for publication, should be addressed to

GAMALIEL BAILEY.

P. S. The volume always begins on the first of January.

Washington D. C., *November* 28, 1850.

BENNETT'S NATIONAL SKY-LIGHT GALLERY,
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE,
One door east of Z. D. Gilman's Drug Store.

EXHIBITION FREE.

TO meet the increasing patronage of this establishment, the Sitting and Exhibition Rooms have been enlarged, and fitted up in a style second to none in this country.

It was necessary, also, to have more assistance in the operating department; and I have therefore associated with me Mr. F. M. Cory, from New York, which will enable us to maintain the present popularity of this Gallery

Some valuable additions to the collection of specimens have been recently made, among which we will mention that of *JENNY LIND*, taken from life; one of *AMIN BEY*, Turkish Envoy; and one, from a Daguerreotype taken in Rome, of Powers's statue of *JOHN C. CALHOUN.*

The collection of the United States Senate, intended for exhibition at the World's Fair, to be held in London in May next, will be complete in a few days, a part of which may be seen at this time.

Having a superior Sky-Light, and one of the best German Cameras, capable of taking portraits twelve times the usual size, and twice the size of any in this city, together with a constant and successful practice for the last twelve years, we feel confident in being able to furnish Daguerreotypes to those who may want them, which, for beauty of tone, clearness of impression, life-like expression, grace and ease of position, cannot be surpassed.

By a new and improved process practiced at this establishment, we are enabled to take pictures in the short space of one second, enabling parents to supply themselves with perfect Daguerreotypes of their little ones, of all ages.

☞ Miniatures neatly set in lockets, breastpins, finger rings, and settings furnished, if desired.

N. S. BENNETT.
Jan. 2. F. M. CORY.

Z. C. ROBBINS, SOLICITOR OF PATENTS,
Washington, D. C.

PREPARES the necessary drawings and papers for applicants for patents, and transacts their business at the Patent Office. He can be consulted in relation to the validity of patents, and the patentability of inventions. All business letters must be post paid, and contain a suitable fee where an examination or an opinion is expected. He has the honor of referring to the following testimonial from the late Commissioner of Patents:

Washington, *November* 28, 1848.

To all whom it may concern:

During the time I have filled the office of Commissioner of Patents, and for some time previous, Zenas C. Robbins, Esq., has followed the business of Patent Solicitor in this city, and has been in the daily prosecution of business in the line of his profession at the Patent Office.

I am well acquainted with Mr. Robbins personally, and believe him to be a man of integrity and ability, to whom persons at a distance may safely intrust their business. I am pleased to have the opportunity to say that he is faithful to the interests of his clients, and has been, thus far, very successful in the practice of his profession.

April 3—4teow EDMUND BURKE.

HENRY MINER & CO.,

DEALERS IN CHEAP PUBLICATIONS, &c., Smithfield street, between Second and Third, PITTSBURGH, PA. This is the most extensive Cheap Publication House in the West, where may always be found the principal Magazines, and new and old Novels, Annuals, Gift Books, &c.

Stationery of every kind, Day Books and Ledgers, Pass books, common and fancy Envelopes, Inks, and in short every thing in that line of business. For sale wholesale and retail, as cheap as can be purchased in any city in the United States.

The *National Era* and other periodicals are kept for sale.

Feb. 13—1y G

CALIFORNIA STEAMERS,

NEW LINE, for 26th of March, May, July, September, and November. Through in 35 days. Passage secured, by early application, in cabin for $325; second cabin, $250; steerage, only $150. Information circulars sent gratis to order. Office, 179 Broadway, New York.

Feb. 27—8t ARNOLD BUFFUM & CO.

NEW DAILY PAPER.

A LARGE number of earnest friends of Freedom, dissatisfied with the present condition of the party press, and desirous of having an organ which shall set forth, temperately but fearlessly, their sentiments and principles, have come forward and contributed, each one his mite, to a fund for that purpose.

That fund has been placed in the hands of Trustees, who will publish in the city of Boston, on the first day of January, 1851, a new daily paper, to be called

THE COMPASS,

and continue to publish the same every morning, except Sunday. It will set forth the principles of the

FREE SOIL PARTY,

but it will be truly a Free Paper, and not the bond servant of any cause, or any party, except that of

Freedom, Truth, and Humanity.

The Pole Star to which it will ever point will be the Right but the Right of All.

It will recognise the obligations of law, the necessity of order, and the duty of peace and good will to all men.

No pains or expense will be spared to make it a good Daily Paper—a commercial, political, and literary paper, worthy of the men who create it, and whose sentiments it will represent.

The names of the editors will be announced hereafter.

The price of the Daily will be five dollars; of the Weekly, two dollars—always in advance.

Subscriptions and applications for advertisements received, for the present, at No. 5 Water street.

Further particulars hereafter.

S. G. HOWE,
WILLIAM JACKSON,
F. W. BIRD,
JOHN P. JEWETT,
Trustees.

Boston, Dec. 28—Jan. 9.

WASHINGTON AND ALEXANDRIA BOAT.

THE steamboat *THOMAS COLLYER* will depart at the following hours; a coach connects with the boat in Washington.

Leaves Alexandria at 8, half past 9, and half past 11 A. M., and at 2 and 4 P. M.

Leaves Washington at a quarter before 9 and a quarter past 10 P. M., and at half past 12, a quarter past 3, and a quarter past 4 P. M.

The *Thomas Collyer* will be on the Mount Vernon route next week.

JOB CORSON,
Jan. 9. Captain.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

For the National Era.

THE WANDERER.

BY M. HEMPSTEAD.

'Twas a stern December sunset—
Stern, though fair and gorgeous still—
Blushing crimson was the river,
And the cloud upon the hill;
But the north side of the forest—
Oh! 'twas bitter cold and chill.

"Father," said a little daughter
Of the minister, "to-day,
When you told us about Daniel,
How he would not cease to pray,
Though a law was made against it—
It was righteous, did you say?

"And the Hebrew men who boldly
Dared to disobey the king—
Was it right for them to venture
On so dangerous a thing,
When they knew not, of a surety,
What deliverance God would bring?"

"Yes, my child," replied the father,
And his look was almost stern;
"Wherefore does my daughter question?
Surely thou art slow to learn
Of the prophets and apostles,
And the martyrs in their turn,

"That a higher law than human
Is the fearless Christian's guide;
Sinful men make sinful statutes,
And the truth is turned aside,
But the laws of God are perfect,
And must evermore abide."

Not again the child made answer,
But in silence bowed her head,
While upon the wall the firelight
Mingled with the sunset red;
Then in haste a servant entering,
To his reverend master said:

"Sir, there is a stranger woman
Waits to see you at the door;
So forlorn a human being
Never did I see before—
One that such a scanty garment
Or so wild an aspect wore."

Wonderingly the little maiden
Close against the window pane
Pressed her cheek to see the stranger:
"None have ever sought in vain,
At my hand," replied the master,
As the servant turned again.

To his door the good man hastened,
But the half had not been told;
'Twas no strolling alms-house vagrant,
'Twas no beggar taught and bold—
But a WOMAN, faint with travel,
Shuddering with affright and cold!

"I have need of food and clothing,
But I ask them not," she cried—
"'Tis a fugitive entreats you,
Only let me here abide;
Give me but one night's protection,
And a corner where to hide!

"Save me! for the love of Heaven,
Save me!" and she turned her eye
To the hill-top, where it rounded
Off against the cloudless sky—
Moving figures in the distance
Did her searching glance descry.

Shrieked she then with frenzied gesture,
"See them! they are on my track!
Will you give me to the bloodhounds?
Will you let them drag me back,
To be scoffed at, to be trampled,
To be tortured on the rack?"

"God protect you!" said the pastor,
"For I cannot grant you aid;
Evil times are fallen upon us,
When such brutal laws are made;
But it is the will of Heaven
That our rulers be obeyed."

O, that gaze of speechless anguish!
O, that heart wrung woman's wail!
As the hunted slave flew onward,
Made his very heart to quail—
Made his very hair to stiffen,
And his face turn ashy pale!

But the door was shut and bolted,
And the fugitive was gone,
Ere the strangers from the hill-top
Had descended to the lawn:
Vain, good constable and planter,
Vain the errand ye are on.

When the moon arose that evening,
On the evil and the good,
Two poor tenants of a hovel,
That beside the forest stood,
Found the hunted woman lying
Where they went to gather wood;

Bore her to their wretched dwelling,
Placed her on its only bed,
Wet her parching lips with water,
Strove to make her taste of bread,
Chafed her limbs, and watched beside her—
In the morning, she was dead!

And the parish gave a coffin,
And a decent grave was made,
And a meager group assembled,
And the parish pastor prayed—
Standing with his head uncovered
Where the silent dust was laid.

Hitherto in speech so gifted,
Wherefore did his language fail?
Wherefore did his accents tremble?
What could make his cheek so pale?
No one living had accused him,
And the dead can tell no tale!

O! bespeak the pastor gently,
For his punishment is sore!
Little lower than the angels
Had he deemed himself before;
Now, even consciousness of manhood
Lives within his soul no more!

In his ear a wail is ringing,
And he hears it everywhere—
Hears it in his quiet parlor,
Hears it on the pulpit stair!
O, entreat the pastor kindly,
For he has enough to bear!

But for that poor hovel's inmates—
When they thither turned again,
Well they knew it was an angel
That upon their bed had lain;
For it lighter seemed, and softer,
To their weariness and pain.

And their frugal bread seemed sweeter
To their hunger than before—
Warmer was the sullen hearthstone,
Smoother was the broken floor;
And they loved each other better,
Loved their God, and neighbor, more.

GOV. SEWARD ON THE FUGITIVE SLAVE LAW.

The following is Governor Seward's Letter to the Convention of the Opponents of the Fugitive Slave Law, held at Boston on Tuesday:

AUBURN, *Saturday, April* 5, 1851.

DEAR SIR: Your letter inviting me to attend a Convention of the People of Massachusetts opposed to the Fugitive Slave Law, and to communicate in writing my opinion on that statute, if I should be unable to attend the Convention, has been received.

While offering the pressure of duties here too long deferred as an apology for non-attendance, I pray you to assure the Committee in whose behalf you act, of my profound sense of their courtesy and kindness. It would be an honor to be invited to address the People of Massachusetts on any subject; but it might well satisfy a generous ambition to be called upon to speak to that great and enlightened Commonwealth on a question of Human Rights and Civil Liberty.

I confess, sir, that I have earnestly desired not to mingle in the popular discussions of the measures of the last Congress. The issue necessarily involves the claims of their advocates and adversaries in the public councils to the confidence of the country. Some of those advocates have entered the political arena, criminating those from whom they had differed, while others have endeavored, by extraordinary means, either to control discussion, or to suppress it altogether; and thus they have shown themselves disqualified, by prejudice or interest, for practicing that impartiality and candor which the occasion has demanded.

I am unwilling even to seem to imply, by reiterating arguments already before the public, either any distrust of the position of those with whom I stood in Congress, or impatience for that favorable popular verdict which I believe to be near, and know to be ultimately certain.

Nevertheless, there can be no impropriety in my declaring, when thus questioned, the opinions which will govern my vote upon any occasion when the Fugitive Slave Law shall come up for review in the National Legislature. I think the act singularly unwise, because it is an attempt by a purely Federative Government to extend the economy of slave States throughout States which repudiate Slavery as a moral, social, and political evil. Any despotic Government would awaken sedition from its profoundest slumbers by such an attempt.

The attempt by this Government has aroused constitutional resistance, which will not cease until the effort shall be relinquished. He who teaches another faith than this, whether self-deceived or not, misleads. I think, also, that the attempt was unnecessary; that political ends—merely political ends—and not real evils, resulting from the escape of slaves, constituted the prevailing motives to the enactment.

I think, also, that the details of the measure are indefensible; that the denial to the alleged fugitive of a trial of his alleged obligation to labor, and of his escape from it, by a Court, and nothing less than a Court of Justice, constitutionally organized, and proceeding according to the course of the common law within the State where he is claimed, is palpably in derogation of the Constitution; that the rules of evidence which the law prescribes are oppressive of the weak and defenceless, and that Christendom might be searched in vain for a parallel in the provisions which make escape from bondage a crime, by a law retroactive in its effect, and without limitations of time to favor the presumption of freedom, which, under rigorous penalties, compel freemen to aid in the capture of slaves, and which offer unmistaken inducements to false claims and false judgments. Finally, whatever changes opinions others may have undergone, I retain my earliest convictions that the constitutional provision on which the law purports to be founded is merely a compact between the States, and that the Congress of the United States have no jurisdiction of the subject.

Nor is the law, which is so obnoxious in itself, commended to my favor by its connection with what are called the other measures of compromise. Compromise implies a mingling of truth and error, right and wrong. One of those affiliated measures denied the admission of New Mexico, because she had determined to come in as a Free State, and remanded her, with permission to come back in the habiliments of slavery. Another distinctly intimated to the Mormons the consent of Congress that they should, if they could, plant a Slave State in the very recess of the continent. A third abolished a public slave mart in the City of Washington, without abating either the extent or the duration of Slavery in the District of Columbia. A fourth obtained peace on humiliating terms, from one of the youngest and feeblest members of the Confederacy, in an attitude of sedition. While a fifth only reluctantly admitted California as a Free State, when she had refused to contaminate herself with Slavery. Which one of these measures has superfluous merit, to be received in extenuation of the Fugitive Slave Law? But we are told, that bad as these measures were, they were the best that could be obtained. On the contrary, there were always votes enough for the admission of California. The Thirty-first Congress might have admitted her, and left the other questions to another Congress, which, instructed by the People, might have done better, and certainly could not have done worse.

Nor do I find the Fugitive Slave Law growing in my favor on the ground of the already falsified promise of an end of the agitation of Slavery in the Republic—an agitation which, whether beneficent or otherwise, is as inseparable from our political organization as the winds and clouds are from the atmosphere that encircles the earth.

I have weighed, moreover, the argument that some portion of the People in some of the States have made the perpetuity of the Fugitive Slave Law a condition of new declarations of loyalty to the Union. That loyalty is a duty resulting from the Constitution, and is equally due, whether the measures of Administration are satisfactory or unsatisfactory. I regret that anything should have happened to encourage a belief that loyalty could be accepted on conditions, and especially on the condition of forbearing to repeal a repealable statute. But since it is so, I can only say that we, on whom the recent action of the Government bears, as it seems to us, so unjustly, are in the Union, for richer for poorer, for better for worse, whether in a majority or in a minority, whether in power or powerless, without condition, reservation, qualification, or limitation, for ever and aye; that we are in the Union, not because we are satisfied with Administration, but whether satisfied or not, not all by means of compromises or understandings, but by virtue of the Constitution, and that all other parties are in the Union on the same terms, for the same tenure, and by virtue of the same obligation, and so they will find their case to be when they offer to plead violations of extra-constitutional conditions to justify secession. Whatever is irrepealable in any of the acts of Congress, no one will be mad enough to attempt to repeal. Whatever is repealed in these acts, and whatever shall be repealable in future acts of Congress, whether it shall favor Freedom or Slavery, no matter under what circumstances, nor with what auspices, with what solemnities, it may have been adopted, must abide the trial of experience, of reason, and of truth. It is only in this way that the Constitution can be maintained, and that the Union can be saved. Its security consists in the adaptation to the physical and moral necessities of the broad and ever-extending empire which it protects and defends, and in the facility with which, without violence or sudden change, errors of administration can be corrected, and new exigencies can be met, so that the State, free or slaveholding, which may at any time be least favored, will at all times be safer under this Government when worst administered, than it would be under any other, however wisely administered or favorably conducted.

I think, my dear sir, that all this is virtually confessed now by those who, while they see that their complicated schemes, that suppression of free debate, which they thought essential to the safety of the Union, have failed, nevertheless admit that the Union is no longer in danger; and therefore I think that we may at last congratulate ourselves on the discovery that not only are extra-constitutional compromises unnecessary, but that the Union has strength and stability enough to endure, notwithstanding that such compromises, under the influence of an unwise legislative distrust, are sometimes unnecessarily and unavailingly made.

I am, sir, with great respect, your humble servant,
WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

John A. Andrew, Esq., Secretary of the Committee to call a Convention of the People of Massachusetts on the subject of the Fugitive Slave Law, Boston.

DUTIES MEN OWE TO CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

[CONTINUED.]

To the Editor of the National Era:

Now, we purpose to prove that both Testaments are opposed to Slavery *per se*; and that in no age of the world did "the Supreme Lawgiver" sanction Slavery, and that it was opposed by our Lord and his Apostles; and, lastly, that obedience to the Fugitive Slave Law is disobedience to Christ.

1. Is Slavery *per se* contrary to both Testaments? By Slavery *per se*, we must mean Slavery as it exists in the slaveholding States of these United States; for, if not there, there is no Fugitive Slave Law beyond the United States. Our Government did not contemplate any imaginative system of Slavery, for the sustentation of which it was necessary to lay under contribution not only the purse of the nation, but the services of every citizen of the United States, and heavy penalties for disobedience. But if this be thought to be holding our D. D. too hard up to the mark, we will say that both Testaments are opposed to any law which recognises a chattel-right of property in man.

That God has endowed man with a body and soul, will not be denied. Nor will it be denied that both Testaments inculcate duties binding upon man both as a terrestrial and immortal being, and that he is held accountable for the faithful discharge of his duty in the various pursuits of human life, both as a mortal, social, intellectual, moral, and accountable being. Now, if it be found that the elementary principles of Slavery *per se* are antagonistic to Christianity *per se* in its elementary principles, it will be but a fair and legitimate deduction that both Testaments are at war with Slavery *per se*. It is a saying, which will be found in *Job* xxxv, 11—"He teacheth us more than the beasts of the earth, and maketh us wiser than the fowls of heaven." These may be held as our chattel property; for, in their nature and design, they are inferior to man. These need no instruction how to frame their habitation, or choose food adapted to their nature; but where instinct serves the brute, man is to use his reason. And in this light he is held accountable. He is commanded to use his mechanical powers for the well-being of his race, and the sustenance of those of his own, "especially they of his household," and for this purpose he is commanded "to labor six days, and do all his work." But he is also regarded as a social being, and his social nature secretly impels him in the pursuit of his daily toil. He is regarded as associated with his species, and both Testaments give him direction how he is to behave as a parent, a member of the Church of God, and a member of the civil associations. God has appointed marriage as the mother of the Word, the nursery of the Church, the school of happiness and virtue, and has said it is not good that man should be alone. The family compact is guarded from every intruder, the husband is established the head of his own family, and upon the wife is enjoined obedience in the Lord. Parents are commanded to train up their children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," and children to "honor their father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise;" and, in short, guards every department of his social nature in the most unequivocal manner.

Nor are the laws of God less imperative which regulate man's conduct as a member of the church of God. He withholds the law-making power from the Church. His code of laws already made are not only sufficient, but absolute and unqualified. And while the power to enact laws for local purposes is given to civil bodies, Christians are exempted from any obedience to any civil enactment which is contrary to any of the foregoing laws. They are to "obey God rather than man."

Again: Both Testaments view man as possessing an intelligent nature, and not only direct him to cultivate it, but hold him accountable for the right cultivation and exercise of this department of his nature. The heavens above him in all their variety and order, and the earth beneath him, invite him to a contemplation of their loveliness and Divine architecture, and they proclaim the eternal power and deity of their Maker.

Again: Both Testaments recognise man as a moral and accountable being. That a distinction between right and wrong is impressed upon this department of his nature. And God has given him this general law for the general regulation of his conduct—"All things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do even so to them, for this is the law and the prophets." And that he is "not to fear them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul." And, in short, to have respect unto the recompense of his eternal reward in all that he does.

Still farther: Both Testaments enjoin the faithful and constant exercise of every power of his nature, whether it be the bodily, social, intellectual, moral, or immortal. To give a power to act is certainly the strongest evidence that it was the design of God that those powers should be employed; but, in addition, he has commanded that they should be employed, and how they should be employed.

Still farther: Both Testaments enjoin that all power bestowed should be exercised according to their respective value. The bodily powers are least, the social higher, the intellectual higher, the moral higher still, and the immortal the highest of all. It is a little higher than the beast of the earth, who uses his bodily powers, and a little lower who uses the higher powers in subordination to the lower powers of his nature. It is the design of God, and his command, that the intellectual department should govern the social, the social the bodily, and the moral should regulate all the rest.

And lastly: Both Testaments enjoin that violence be done to none of the active powers of man. Violence is done to a bodily power by overworking it; and to a mental, in not exercising it; and by a habitual indulgence in vice, the moral power is outraged, and becomes seared "as with a hot iron." These are the elementary principles of the religion of the "Supreme Lawgiver," as taught in both Testaments. These are the elementary principles of Religion *per se*, as taught in both Testaments.

But what are the elementary principles of Slavery *per se* which exists in the slaveholding States of these United States, and which, *per se*, recognises man as a chattel? Does it call into exercise every department of man's nature? Does it exercise them in subordination to the higher powers of his nature? Does it regard man as a social being, making him the head of his own family? Does it enjoin obedience to parents in the Lord on the part of children? Does it provide for the proper cultivation of man's intellect, and does it guard the moral principle from outrage and wrong? So far from this, it provides no stimulus for man in his daily toil, but that which is applied to the beast which perisheth—brutal insult; personal indignities are the stimuli provided in the elementary system of Slavery *per se*. We are not saying that the slaveholder is the worst man in the world. So far from it, when we consider the absolute power with which he is clothed, we are astonished at the mildness with which he sometimes uses that power; but generosity and benevolence are poor guaranties in the hands of men clothed with absolute power, for the protection of those over whom the law extends no protection. The slave is left liable to every spleen of rage which grasping avarice or insane anger may devise.

But the social laws given by both Testaments are not only liable to be violated, but the elementary laws of Slavery *per se* provide for their violation, by leaving all marriages either null or voidable at the master's pleasure—by depriving a man of the right of property in his wife, his children, or even in himself, or any possession in anything whatever. It takes children from under the care of their parents, and separates families at the pleasure or convenience of the owner. There is not a town on the general route to the slave-market, but you may read in the countenances of these manacled outcasts, that they are separated from all that they hold dear in life. And this shows but some of the corruption of the blood and the rottenness of that system *per se* which Dr. Lord tells us has the sanction of the "Supreme Lawgiver in both Testaments."

But another elementary principle of Slavery *per se* is to consign its victim to hopeless ignorance, and therefore to legislate against that elementary system of Christianity *per se*, which enjoins the cultivation of the mental powers. It is a penal offence in most, if not all the slave States, to teach the slave to read, or become acquainted with the contents of both Testaments, which contain God's best message to man, and which both Testaments command us to "search." Its firmest advocates tell us that ignorance and weakness are the only pillars upon which the system can rest secure; and what else, even were it not so, could be expected in the nature of the case? Nothing can be a sufficient inducement for the student to pass through days of toil and nights of weariness, but a participation in the fruits of his own labors. Of this Slavery strips him. But does not the student require the facility of books, of time, and teachers? Who will provide the slave with them? Will his master do it? Are we to expect this from a man who views him as his chattel, and who considers every cent laid out upon him as lost, unless it brings him in return a proportionate amount of gain—a valuable service? Are not the stage of things as might be well expected? Little difference in that respect exists between the slave and the beast which perishes; and Dr. Lord, a minister of the Gospel, delights to have it so—and calls upon his congregation to load with reproaches the man who refuses his aid in the recapture of the victim of oppression. Ah! shame, where is thy blush? "I tremble when I reflect that God is just!"

But Slavery is at war with the moral powers of man's nature. The master usurps the place of the Most High over his conscience, person, and conduct. This is too horrid and too evident to need demonstration. Nor need we refer to the injury inflicted upon man as an immortal being. The elementary principles of Slavery *per se* are not antagonistic to one of the elementary principles of both Testaments, but to every principle of both Testaments. And the man who dares give God as the author of such a system, outrages the common sense of mankind, and blasphemes the justice and mercy as well as the truth of the Supreme Lawgiver, and does more to harden men in sin and spread infidelity than all the Jacobin clubs ever did in France, or the ravings and contradictory reasonings of Jean Jacques Rousseau.

And, finally, upon this head, let it not be understood that I have quoted or referred to the abuses of Slavery. Indeed, such a system of elementary principles are incapable of abuse; that is, there can no law be enacted which can be shown to be contrary to the elementary principles of a system as far from the laws of the Supreme Lawgiver, and both Testaments, as the laws of a Holy God and a pure religion are from the laws of a religion "whose baptism is blood, and whose sacrament is crime."

In my next, I purpose to prove that in no age of the world did the Supreme Lawgiver sanction Slavery *per se*. In the mean time, I remain your obedient and respectful friend,

ROBERT W. OLIVER,
Ass. Ref. Presbyterian Minister, West Middlesex P. O., Mercer Co., Pa.

THE LITTLE IRISH BOY.

Shall I tell you a story, my dear children, about a little Irish boy who loved to hear about Jesus? I presume you say, "yes." Well, his name was Johnny, and he lived in a pretty little cottage by the side of a public road. The Irish peasantry are not very nice about their houses; some of them look just like rough hay-stacks, and some of them are not even so pretty as a rough hay-stack, but are more like dung-hills with chimneys in them. Johnny's father had, however, taken great pains with his house—it was built of stone, and slated. He was a blacksmith, and his smithy was built near his house, and both were surrounded by a neat wall. The yard was clean, and, altogether, there was an air of comfort and beauty about the place not often met with in this district of Ireland.

One day, when Johnny was a very little boy, only two years old, he went into his father's shop, and as his father was busy nailing a horse-shoe on, he did not see the poor little fellow go to the big fire in the smithy; but he soon heard his screams, for he had burned his hand dreadfully. His mother, as you may guess, was in a sad fright; and instead of taking time to tie up each little finger separately first, she just tied all the hand in one piece of linen, and when, after a while, the poor little burned hand had healed, the new skin grew over all fingers, and joined them together. When I saw the dear little Johnny first, he was five years old, and it was very distressing to see such a pretty, lively boy, lame in his right hand.

Do you know what a Roman Catholic is? If you do not, ask some one to tell you. Johnny's father was a Roman Catholic; but for all that he did not refuse to let Johnny and his sister attend a Protestant school which was opened near his house. There Johnny was a very diligent scholar; he learned a great many little hymns, and pretty verses, and the catechism. He also learned to spell and read; but he never seemed so much pleased as when his teacher spoke about Jesus, and taught him some little verses of God's love in sending his Son to die for sinners; then his fine blue eyes would glisten, and he would look up so earnestly, as though he wished to secure every word.

When he had been at school about six months, his father sent him to a hospital at some distance, that an operation might be performed upon his hand. He was away two or three months, and returned, poor little dear, weak and feeble, having suffered a great deal of pain during his absence. When his teacher heard he had come home, she went to see him, and, sitting down beside him, she told him she was sorry to hear he had suffered so much. He told her all the doctors did to his hand like a little old man, and said he often thought of school, and wished to be there.

"Well, Johnny," she said, "do you remember any of the little hymns you used to say at school?"

"No," he replied, "the pain drove it all out of my head."

"Then, do you remember any of the merry rhymes you used to sing?"

"Arrah! no ma'am, I have forgot them too."

"Do you remember nothing at all, my dear boy? Do you remember if God loves you, Johnny?"

"O, yes! yes, ma'am, I remember that."

"And how do you know that he loves you?" she said, anxious to find out if he had any distinct idea on the subject.

He looked up in her face, with a countenance beaming with delight, and said, "Because, ma'am, 'God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life;' that's how I know that he loves me."

Soon after this I removed far away from that place, and I never heard whether Johnny got better or not; but I have often thought of him, and have hoped that he would be led to believe in Him who said, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."—*Early Days.*

From the Friend of Youth.

A DREAM.

FROM THE GERMAN OF JEAN PAUL.

I dreamed that I stood in the "Field of God" on New Year's Night, at the hour when Faith is wont to look forth from within her magic circle, to see the shadowy forms pass by of those who are to enter the spirit land within the coming year. As I looked, the future was laid before me, and I saw the open graves which the future year had prepared as the resting-places for those whom its days were to take away with them.

The dark winter days first passed along in a solemn train, and each one lowered its silent dead into a cold grave, to vanish forever from this tumultuous, sultry life. But I knew not the departed ones.

Then came the bright spring days, bearing with them still heavier burdens, with which they filled the open graves. A father, a sister, or a friend, was dropped and vanished from mortal sight. Sometimes a child's coffin, like a little flower-cup enclosing a delicate, withered flower, glided down from two reluctant arms.

My heart was touched with sadness—a tender sorrow, softened as I thought, how much better for you, little children, to be thus taken away by the cold hand of death. Sink down, with joy, to your resting place, now, when it is to you the tenderest bed of flowers; for, see, the cross under which you would have suffered greatly here, now stands above your grave, the emblem of your joy and triumph there.

Those, again, who were laid to rest by the mild spring days, amid flowers and the sound of bells, were all strangers to me.

A dark-veiled, silent morning then appeared, bearing a shrouded human form in a coffin. A train of white-robed mourners, with trembling and uncertain steps, followed silent and sorrowful. As they drew near the grave, the clouds lowered gloomily around. Then the coffin was opened, and oh! how deep the wail of anguish that broke forth from every heart. My own feelings now gave way in sympathy with the afflicted ones, for I knew them and the departed one whom they had followed hither. It was a tender mother, who now followed two children into the silent land, and the mourners were her daughters. Thou pale, cold form, whose eyes are now forever closed, no more to be wet with tears—thou who hast suffered much—why must thou too go down thus torn and wasted to the earth! Thy tender flowrets stripped rudely off by death before he snatched thee away at last. Alas, on every feature pain has impressed the last lineaments, and thy hand is chilled by the ice-cold grasp of death, which tore thee wounded away. But what do I say? Thou art more happy now than they who grieve around thy deserted form. I would rather look upon thee, resting calmly there, than on thy friends, to whom all thy sufferings now come back in one vivid pang—than on thy sisters, who would now share with thee thy deep-slumbering night, as before they shared each sleepless one—than on thy fond children, who, blinded by their tears, see nought but the cold grave between thy loving heart and theirs.

My eyes grew dim and heavy, and the clouds lowered darkly around, enshrouding in gloom the mourners and their woe. All became cloud, as in human life. Suddenly the clouds trembled, and rays of light, from a sun unknown to mortals, broke through and parted them wide asunder. The blue sky opened out in loveliness, and with warm zephyrs brought forth flowers from the cold, damp ground. Two lilies from the grave grew high above the rest, and the spring-angels fanned them with their breath until their petals fluttered upwards into the air, and became the wings of two angels that flew down from Heaven. The angels hovered nearer over the grave from which flowers were springing up in profusion; when lo! the grave opened and the mother arose. The angels were her two children, and lay upon her breast—two angels whom death had purified from mortal life. "Welcome, welcome," said they, "to our land of rest, dear, afflicted mother—rest now, and renew thy weary life. Death is the solace to all earthly wounds, the awakening to higher life. Look not with longing down to earth, where they yet weep for thee. Affliction is the portion of time. In eternity it is not as there on earth. We have never yet been far away from thee, dear mother, and the beautiful, blessed eternity attracts all the loved ones together."

I will not say, beloved friends, that I awoke, for the appearance was not a dream; neither was the consolation. God has implanted in every breast an unfading flower to bloom on every grave.
B.

It is a current belief of the common people in Germany, that whoever stands on New Year's Night at a crossway, or in a burying gound, (Gottesacker—Field of God,) and draws a circle around him, with proper ceremonies, will see the spirits of the coming year float in shadowy forms around him.

The graves of the people have usually a wooden cross erected above them.

FRIENDSHIP.

The friend who shows to me the mirror of myself, who conceals no defect, gives me friendly warning, and heartily scolds me when I have not fulfilled my duty—he is my friend, however little he may appear so. But when one flatteringly praises me, always commends me, never rebukes me, assists my faults, and forgives me before I have repented—he is my enemy, however friendly he may appear.

FROM THE GERMAN.

THE IMPERIAL LIBRARY, founded at St. Petersburg by Catherine II, has been thrown open to the public by the Emperor Nicholas.

DONT BE AFRAID OF HARD WORK.—A Russian, having witnessed Lavater's diligence in study, visiting the sick, and relieving the poor, was surprised at his fortitude and activity, and asked how he acquired such strength of mind and power of endurance? "Man," replied Lavater, "rarely wants the power to work when he possesses *the will*. The more I labor, the more ability and inclination I have to labor."

THE DOG OF BRUSSELS.

The following Narrative (says Chambers) I became acquainted with during a visit with my wife to Brussels, in the year 1837.

After visiting many of the interesting objects the pleasant capital, Brussels, offers to the notice of strangers, my companion and I turned our steps towards the Chamber of Deputies. This building is extensive, and occupies three sides of a square, the fourth being open towards the parks. There is a large, smooth court in front, which forms a pleasant promenade; but, in one corner of it, and somewhat marring the stateliness of the scene, I noticed a common little wooden dog-kennel, which I supposed to belong to a watch-dog. Humble as was this little tenement, it was connected with an incident, of which I had the following history from my loquacious conductress.

"Here," she said, "in this place, was the fiercest fighting in the revolution of 1830; for several days after the battle, the ground was red with French and Belgian blood. Just then a shaggy-looking dog, somewhat resembling a large terrier, but, as I thought, an ugly specimen of his race, walked slowly towards us. He looked good-natured, and I stooped to pat him. "Ah!" said the old woman, "he may be caressed now with safety, as he is not on *the spot*." "What spot?" I inquired; and, in reply, she told me the following anecdote: "In the revolutionary army that assembled to oppose the Dutch who invaded our city in the month of September, 1830, was a young French officer, who, wherever he went, was followed by the dog you see. The poor lad was in the thickest of the fighting, on the fatal 21st, and fell, covered with wounds, on a spot which I shall show you."

She led me towards the centre of the court, but the dog went before, and lay down near a smooth stone, looking up at us with an expression of fierce defiance.

"Ah, poor fellow!" said the old lady, "we're not going to disturb you. Don't go near him, madame, while he's there. That was the spot where his master's dead body lay, and he sat beside it, licking the bleeeing wound. At length it was removed for burial, but the dog followed it, and stayed three days beside the grave. At the end of that time, he returned here, and lay down where you see him now, growling savagely, and attacking any one who tried to dislodge him. Some of the people about beat him with sticks, and drove him away; the next day he returned, but was again cruelly hunted off. When he came back the third time he was worn to a skeleton from fatigue and hunger, and looked as if he would never rise again from his master's death-place. My husband and I had gone away for a while, or we would not have suffered the creature to be ill-treated; but one of the directors, who is a humane man, chanced to pass by just as a rabble of boys were preparing once more to torture the poor, faithful dog. He immediately dispersed them, and, having inquired into the circumstances connected with the animal, he ordered that he should never be molested, that the kennel which you see should be built for him, and procured a small sum to be allowed weekly for his maintenance. He soon recovered his strength, and you may see, by his appearance, that he is taken good care of. Indeed, he is well known in the town; and the little masters and misses that play in the park delight in bringing him sweet cakes, of which he is very fond. However, they know very well that, although he is as gentle as a lamb while he is walking up and down, they must never attempt to touch him when lying on his chosen spot, from which, indeed, he never stirs in any direction farther than a hundred yards. Many of his young friends have tried to entice him to a greater distance; and we have sometimes allowed him to be hungry, and then coaxed him on with his most favorite food, but in vain. He always turned back, and lay down where his master fell. Seven years have now passed away, but it is still the same, the dumb creature never forgets.

During my stay at Brussels I often walked by this place, and never missed the dog from his accustomed haunt, nor saw him pass the self-imposed limits mentioned by the good woman. Her story was confirmed to me by others, so that I can see no reason to doubt its truth. I do not know the name of the dog of Brussels; his faithful limbs have no doubt long ere now mingled with the dust; but memory often recalls the story of his enduring love.

Perchance the tidings of his young master's fall brought darkness to the chambers of some vine-covered cottage of France, robbed fair faces of their smiles, and covered graceful forms with the garb of woe. They wept and lamented; but a year passed over, and the brothers and sisters laughed and conversed as before. The vacant place of the dead was no longer needed, and his name had become an unspoken word. Another year, and his fair affianced one had consented to become another's bride. No tear in that bright eye, no shadow on that smooth brow, now told that even one sorrowing thought turned toward his lonely grave.

Years still passed on, and even in the widowed mother's heart the memory of her soldier boy waxed dim. She did not forget him quite, and often some trifling object or event would serve to renew her grief. But, at other times, she would sit and smile, pleased and contented, as though that sharp sorrow of bereavement had never been felt. The brothers and sisters had each other still—the fair betrothed had another lover—the mother had many sons—the dog had but one master. Fond, and faithful to the end, with constancy that knows no change, that dumb creature's cold vigils on the stone of Brussels put evermore to shame our vaunted human love!—*Chambers's Journal.*

AGENCY FOR CLAIMS.

THE undersigned, having had several years' experience in one of the public Departments of Washington, offers his services to claimants for military and naval pensions, invalid pensions, bounty land, &c. His experience and practical acquaintance with the minor details of business transacted in the accounting offices, and his knowledge of the decisions made in the adjudication of claims, enable him to offer his services with the confident assurance of procuring early and satisfactory action on all claims presented by him.

He will give his personal attention in the settlement of all claims against the United States—such as expense incurred in the organization of volunteers; accounts of recruiting officers; claims for horses lost or property destroyed; privateer pensions; quartermasters, commissaries, and wagon masters' accounts; extra pay, back pay, rejected claims, and claims before Congress.

Naval Pensions.—In all cases where any officer, seaman, marine, engineer, fireman, or coal heaver, belonging to the United States navy, has died in the naval service of a wound received, or disease contracted, in the line of duty, leaving a widow or minor children, there is more or less pension due, the amount depending upon the circumstances of each particular case.

Mexican War.—In case of any officer or soldier, either of the regular army or volunteers, who died in the service during the late war with Mexico, or after leaving the service, of wounds received or diseases contracted in said service, leaving a widow, or children under sixteen years of age, there is a pension due to such widow or children.

It may be further stated, as a general rule, that in all cases where any officer of the regular army, or any officer or private soldier of the militia, including rangers, sea-fencibles, or volunteers, either in the war of 1812 or at any subsequent time, has died of wounds received in actual service, leaving a widow, or children under sixteen years of age, there is a pension due to such widow or children, or widow and children, as the case may be, if it has never been received.

Invalid Pensions.—All officers and privates, whether of the army, navy, militia, or volunteers, who have been at any time disabled in the service by wounds received or disease contracted while in the line of duty, are entitled to pensions, the amount depending upon the rank of the invalid and the degree of disability.

In many of the public offices, and in the Pension Office particularly, there is a great number of suspended and rejected claims, many of which could be established, if put into the hands of an efficient agent at the seat of Government, who is thoroughly acquainted with that branch of business.

All letters addressed to *A. M. GANGEWER, Washington, D. C.*, (the postage being paid,) making inquiries in regard to claims, will be promptly attended to. Claims for *pension, back pay*, and *extra pay*, will be attended to without charge, unless they are successfully prosecuted in which case he will charge a reasonable per centage upon the sum recovered.

Persons writing to him in regard to claims, should communicate all the facts of the case, in *as full a manner as possible*. Especially, in all claims for pension, extra or back pay, or bounty lands, the name of the officer or soldier, the time and place of his enlistment, the company and regiment in which he served, the length of time he served, &c., should be fully stated.

He will send forms and instructions, when sufficient facts are communicated to enable him to determine what laws are applicable to the case.
A. M. GANGEWER,
March 13, 1851.—6m Washington, D. C.

References.—Hon. S. P. Chase, Ohio; Hon. D. Wilmot, Pennsylvania; Hon. O. Cole, Wisconsin; Hon. Ellis Lewis, Lancaster, Pennsylvania; Gen. Edward Armor, Carlisle, Pennsylvania; Dr. G. Bailey, Editor National Era; and the accounting officers generally.

LARD FOR OIL.

LARD WANTED.—Cash paid for corn, mast, and slop-fed Lard. Apply to
THOMAS EMERY, Lard Oil Manufacturer,
Jan. 20. 33 Water street, near Walnut, Cincinnati, O.

LAW OFFICE, COLUMBUS, O.

WILLIAM B. JARVIS, Jun., Attorney and Counsellor at Law, Columbus, Ohio. Office in Platt's new building, State street, opposite south door of State House. Business connected with the profession, of all kinds, punctually attended to. Jan. 28.

POWERS & SEATON,

ATTORNEYS and Counsellors at Law, and Solicitors in Chancery, Youngstown, Mahoning county, Ohio.
R. J. POWERS.
Sept. 26. G. W. SEATON.

HENRY H. PAXTON,

ATTORNEY and Counsellor at Law, and Solicitor in Chancery, Cadiz, Harrison county, Ohio. Jan. 9.

PROGRESS PAMPHLETS.

A SERIES of *twelve* or *fifteen* Original Pamphlets, of the above title, is in the course of publication at Cincinnati, Ohio, by L. A. HINE, whose thorough study of the various questions of Reform cannot fail to make them acceptable to all liberal minds. They are issued at irregular intervals, according to circumstances; but, as near as may be, they will be issued monthly. They will embrace the great questions touching the relations of man to nature, and of mankind among themselves in every sphere of life; and their aim will be to hasten the time when greater liberty, more equality, and a purer fraternity, will secure to all the highest happiness of which they are individually capable.

Terms.—Ten cents single number, one dollar per dozen, or one dollar for the series. Each number contains 32 pages, beautifully printed and neatly covered. Direct to
March 13—6m L. A. HINE, Cincinnati, Ohio.

THE FRIEND OF YOUTH.

THIS new and attractive journal for Youth, edited by Mrs. Bailey, and published at Washington, can be had at the *Boston Agency for the National Era*, 3 Cornhill. Price, by mail, 50 cents a year; delivered in Boston, free postage, 75 cents. GEORGE W. LIGHT,
Nov. 25. 3 Cornhill, Boston.

THE FREE PRESBYTERIAN.

THIS paper (under the editorial control of Rev. Joseph Gordon, Rev. John Rankin, corresponding editor,) will complete the first half year of its existence on Wednesday, January 1st, 1851. The substantial favors extended to it thus far show that such a journal was needed by the religious community. It will be the study of the editor to make its columns a still more full exponent of the principles and views of those who desire the church to take high and holy ground on the great moral questions which now agitate the world. *The Free Presbyterian* will steadily aim to present the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ (as it is) in harmony with all true reform—social, moral, and legislative—and in uncompromising hostility to all that is wrong, whether it find its lodging place in Church or State.

While it is professedly the organ of the *Free Presbyterian Church*, and will maintain the distinctive principles which separate it from other branches of the Presbyterian family, *The Free Presbyterian* will not be a mere sectarian sheet, but will most heartily co-operate with every other instrumentality calculated to promote the glory of God and the highest good of man.

Terms, two dollars per annum. Address
WILLIAM F. CLARK, Publisher,
Jan. 2. Mercer, Mercer Co., Pa.

LOST,

ON Sunday afternoon, March 9th, a Gold Breastpin, set with garnets and pearls in the form of a crescent, and having a chain and tassels. The finder will be suitably rewarded by leaving it at this office. March 13.

TO THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC.

HAVING associated myself in business with Mr. *JOHN A. PARKS*, of the "*MARLBORO' HOTEL*," I would invite those whom for the past six years I have been accustomed to meet at this and the Adams House, to make the Marlboro' their home while in the city.

I will to the utmost strive to serve acceptably those who may favor me with their patronage.
CHARLES W. JENKS.
Marlboro' Hotel, Boston, March 1, 1851. Mar. 10—tfg

MARLBORO' HOTEL.

TEMPERANCE HOUSE. *JENKS & PARKS*, No. 229 Washington street, Boston. C. W. JENKS.
March 20—1yg J. A. PARKS.

ORTHOPÆDIC SURGERY.

(THE USE OF THE KNIFE DISPENSED WITH.)

THE managers of the Parkeville Institute (near Philadelphia) have opened a ward in that Institution, for the cure of *DEFORMITIES OF THE HUMAN BODY*, such as curved spine, crooked limbs, deformed bones, club feet and all diseases of an analogous character, and also hernia, or rupture, by means which render a resort to the use of the knife unnecessary. These patients will be under the charge of an experienced and skillful Orthopædic Surgeon, (Dr. T. F. Cullen,) who was for four years a pupil of the late celebrated Dr. *HEBER CHASE*, of Philadelphia, and who has for the last ten years devoted himself to this specialty.

Persons at a distance can consult with Dr. Cullen, by letter, describing the case and enclosing a fee of ten dollars, directed to the care of *Samuel Webb*, Secretary, No. 58 South Fourth street, Philadelphia, to whom all applications for admission are to be made.
T. F. CULLEN, M. D.,
March 20—tf Visiting Surgeon.

SUPERIOR DAGUERREOTYPES.

FIRST PREMIUM!

J. H. WHITEHURST has extended the field of his operations over more ground than any Daguerreotypist in the country. His Galleries may be found on Pennsylvania avenue, between Four-and-a half and Sixth streets; No. 207 Baltimore street, Baltimore; corner Broadway and Leonard street, New York; No. 77 Main street, Richmond; Sycamore street, Petersburg; Main street, Norfolk; and Main street, Lynchburg, Virginia.

His beautifully and highly finished Electro Daguerreotypes are an extraordinary improvement, insuring faithful and highly finished likenesses in a few seconds.

The rotary back-ground, invented by J. H. Whitehurst, gives an airy and living appearance to the picture.

He is the patentee of the Morteotype, the art of imbedding Daguerreotype likenesses in tombstones, so as to make them resist the ravages of time and weather.

Whitehurst's establishments now distribute more than thirty thousand pictures annually, and have never given dissatisfaction! This is certainly a flattering proof of the superiority of his likenesses.

J. H. W. calls the attention of the public generally to his elegantly furnished Gallery over Lane & Tucker's new store, where a free exhibition of pictures will be given.

Notwithstanding the usual competition in Daguerreotypes at the recent fair of the Maryland Institute, he was awarded the first medal by the judges.

Likenesses of every description copied, and post-mortem cases attended to. March 27—tf

PARKEVILLE HYDROPATHIC INSTITUTE,

Incorporated by the State of New Jersey,

ACCESSIBLE from all parts of the United States, situated two miles south of Woodbury, the county town of Gloucester county, New Jersey, and five miles from Red Bank, is now in *successful operation*, for the cure of Gout, Rheumatism, Bronchitis, Incipient Consumption, Dyspepsia, Constipation, Diarrhœa, Dropsy, Piles, Prolapsus Uteri, Paralysis, Neuralgia, Liver Complaint, Drunkenness, Insanity, and Scrofulous, Nervous, Febrile, and Cutaneous Diseases.

This Institution was built expressly for the purpose of a Water Cure Establishment, is capable of accommodating fifty patients, and abundantly supplied with *water of the purest quality*.

The location has been selected for the peculiar salubrity of its atmosphere, the inexhaustible supply of water, its proximity to the city, and the advantages which it offers for fully carrying out the principles and practices of the *Water Cure*; and, owing to the mildness of the climate, it is kept *open all the year*, winter as well as summer.

The main building is three stories high, standing back from the street about one hundred feet, with a semicircular grass plot in front, and contains thirty to forty rooms. The grounds around the house are tastefully laid out with walks and planted with trees, shrubs, &c. On the left of the entrance to these grounds is a cottage containing four rooms, used by male patients as a bathing house, with every convenience for "packing," bathing, &c.; on the right of the entrance, about two hundred feet distant, stands a similar cottage, used by the ladies for similar purposes.

In the rear of the Institute, at the distance of one hundred feet, are three other cottages, some eighty feet apart. One of these is the laundry, with a hydrant at the door; the other two are occupied by the servants.

The hydrant water is introduced into these cottages as well as into the main building, and all the waste water carried off by drains under ground, (the Doctor being very particular to have every part kept clean and in good order.)

THE WATER WORKS

Consist of a circular stone building, standing on the brow of a hill, surmounted by a large cedar reservoir containing five hundred barrels, brought from a never-failing spring of pure cold water in the side of the hill. There are thirteen of these springs not far distant from each other, but five of them are capable of keeping the reservoir constantly overflowing. The surplus water is carried from the reservoir to a fountain in the water-works yard surrounded by weeping willows. In the first story of the water works is a circular room, containing the douche bath, which is a stream falling from a height of about thirty feet, and can be varied in size from half an inch to an inch and a half in diameter. Adjoining the douche room is a dressing room, with marble tables, &c.; the *rising douche* (for the cure of piles, &c.) is one of the most complete contrivances of the kind, being entirely under the control of the patient using the same.

Below the water works, further down the hill, stands the swimming bath, with a stream of water constantly passing through it.

THE BATHING DEPARTMENT

Consists of a two-story building, connected with the main building by an enclosed gallery or passage—containing large packing rooms, bathing rooms, douches, (rising and falling,) plunge baths, half baths, sitz baths, foot baths, &c. &c.

A further description is deemed unnecessary, as those needing that kind of treatment are invited to call and see for themselves.

The servants and bath attendants have been selected with the greatest care, and are all accustomed to the economy of a hydropathic establishment.

Parkeville is about nine miles from Philadelphia, surrounded by a flourishing neighborhood of industrious and enterprising farmers. Communication may be had with the city, either by water or otherwise, several times daily. There are churches and schools in its immediate vicinity.

The managers, while they offer the advantages of their Institution to the diseased, would also tender them the comforts and conveniences of a home.

TERMS.

Ten dollars per week, or thirty-five dollars per month, which include board, treatment, and all other charges except washing. Those requiring extra accommodation will be charged accordingly.

Persons at a distance can obtain the opinion of the Resident Physician, as to the probable effect of the water treatment, by enclosing ten dollars, accompanied by a written statement of their case.

Application to be made to
SAMUEL WEBB, *Secretary*,
58 South Fourth street, Philadelphia.

Patients will be expected to bring with them two linen sheets, two large woollen blankets, four comfortables, and half a dozen crash towels, or these can be purchased at the Institute.

Such as wish to keep their own horses at Parkeville, can have them well taken care of at reasonable prices.

DRUNKENNESS is a physical disease, and can *certainly be cured* in almost every case, however inveterate, by a proper and scientific use of water, provided the patient has sufficient vitality to produce the necessary reaction, and is *sincerely desirous* to overcome the almost "*irresistible inclination for strong drink*."

Do not wait until your affliction becomes public; the moment you (or your friends) discover a *desire* for stimulating drinks, or for *opiates* of any kind, or for *tobacco* in any form, apply without hesitation—the earlier, the more speedy the cure.

The *inclination for stimulants, opiates, narcotics, &c., can be entirely removed*, even where they have been resorted to for the relief of pain, (which can generally be assuaged by the water treatment, without recourse to those poisonous substances.)

INSANITY, no matter how excited or depressed the patient may be, when not caused by organic destruction of some important part, can generally be *cured* by rational and mild treatment at this institution. Such patients will have all the benefits of an asylum and the *comforts of a home*, with skillful, kind, and attentive nurses.

Separate Buildings, apart from the main building, are provided for the above-mentioned classes of patients, where they can, if necessary, be entirely private and unobserved by others.

One of the wards is appropriated to *ORTHOPIEDIC OR MECHANICAL SURGERY*, for distorted limbs, &c., where the knife is entirely dispensed with, aided by hydriatic treatment when necessary.

Finding, from the number of patients heretofore sent by some of the most eminent physicians, here and elsewhere, that there is a disposition on the part of the *Medical Profession* to patronize an institution like this, where the medical and surgical departments are under the direction of regularly educated physicians, and where nothing that savors of quackery is allowed, and aware of the difficulty of administering the water treatment in private practice, the board of managers are willing to make satisfactory arrangements (pecuniary and professional) with *physicians sending patients to Parkeville Institute.* March 6.

JAMES BIRNEY AND CHARLES C. PEIRCE,

Cincinnati.

BIRNEY & PEIRCE, *Attorneys at Law and Notaries Public.*

JAMES BIRNEY, commissioned to take depositions, acknowledgment of deeds, and to administer oaths and affirmations, by appointment of the Governors of

Alabama	Connecticut	Delaware
Illinois	Indiana	Iowa
Kentucky	Louisiana	Michigan
Missouri	Mississippi	Maine
New York	New Hampshire	North Carolina
Pennsylvania	Rhode Island	South Carolina
Tennessee	Vermont	Wisconsin.
Texas	Maryland	

Special attention given to collections and to the taking of depositions.
Office, No. 114 Main street. July 25.

INFORMATION WANTED,

OF HENRY CLARE, a native of London, about thirty years of age, who enlisted in the United States navy in 1840 or 1841, and is probably still in that service. It is believed that he married his wife in the city of Washington or in the District of Columbia, some seven or eight years ago. Any member of his wife's family or other person, who may know anything of him and of his present situation, by leaving the information with the Editor of this paper, will confer a great favor upon his sister,
SARAH CLARE.
Amesbury, Mass., March 10, 1851. Mar. 20.

OSAGE ORANGE SEED.

I HAVE just received and offer for sale a lot of these seeds which I believe to be in every way reliable.

They were gathered during the present winter by Mr. James Sompter, of Union county, Indiana, who went out to Texas for the express purpose of procuring good seed for his own planting.

His knowledge of the hedging business, and personal interest in the matter, are sufficient guarantee that every precaution has been used to select none but seeds of undoubted vitality, and that the proper care has been taken in their collection and preservation.

As I have no other seed on hand, purchasers can depend upon having their orders filled from this lot; and I shall be pleased to furnish samples, by mail or otherwise, to all who desire to test its quality.

Printed directions for cultivation accompany each parcel sold.
E. B. HINMAN,
Northeast corner of Main and Lower Market
March 13—9t streets, Cincinnati, Ohio.

CAHILL TOLMAN,

COMMISSION Merchant and Manufacturers' Agent for the sale of every description of *PLAIN AND PAINTED WOODEN WARE*. Particular attention given to shipping goods promptly, at the lowest rates, to any part of the country. Orders solicited.

No. 5 Canal and No. 12 Merrimac streets, Boston, Massachusetts. Jan. 16—6m

HOOKER & HAWLEY,

ATTORNEYS and Counsellors at Law, Hartford, Connecticut. JOHN HOOKER.
Sept. 12—1y JOSEPH R. HAWLEY.

LIGHT'S LITERARY AGENCY,

No. 3 Cornhill, Boston.

ESTABLISHED to aid the circulation of all *USEFUL PUBLICATIONS* issued in the United States. Orders for Books or Periodicals executed promptly, and at the most reasonable rates.

THE NATIONAL ERA comes from Washington to this Agency by Express, and is delivered by carriers in any part of the city proper, at $2.75 a year, *free of postage*; single copies 6 1-4 cents. Price, by mail, $2.

THE FRIEND OF YOUTH, a new and attractive monthly journal for Youth, edited by Mrs BAILEY, and published at Washington, also comes by Express to this Agency. Price, delivered in Boston, *free of postage*, 75 cents a year; by mail, 50 cents.
June 6. G. W. LIGHT & CO.

NEWSPAPER AGENCIES.

V. B. PALMER, the American Newspaper Agent, is agent for the *National Era*, and authorized to take Advertisements and subscriptions at the same rates as required by us. His offices are at Boston, 8 Congress street; New York, Tribune Building; Philadelphia, northwest corner of Third and Chestnut streets; Baltimore, southwest corner of North and Fayette streets.

☞ S. M. PETTENGILL, Newspaper Advertising, Subscription, and Collecting Agent, No. 10 State street, Boston, (Journal Building,) is also agent for the *National Era.*

DAVID TORRENCE, NOTARY PUBLIC,

Xenia, Ohio,

WILL take acknowledgments, depositions, affidavits, and protestations, in town or country; is agent for the *National Era*, the *Union Mutual Life Insurance Company*, the *American Live Stock Insurance Company*; and will attend to the collection of claims generally; also, to selling, leasing, and renting real estate.

☞ Office—Galloway's Buildings, up stairs—corner room.
Sept. 19—1y

FANCY SILK GOODS, DRESS TRIMMINGS, &c.

J. K. McILWAIN & SON, *Philadelphia, No. 3 Bank street*, importers and dealers in Fringes, Gimps, and Buttons, Hosiery, Gloves, Ribbons, Purse Twist, Combs, Steel Beads, Spool Cotton, Tapes, Needles, Pins, Bobbins, &c. &c. &c. Jan. 2.

WATSON & RENWICK, WASHINGTON, D. C.,

AGENTS *for procuring Patents in the United States and foreign countries.*

They prepare Specifications and Drawings of new inventions, and transact all business connected with their profession.

They will revise and attend to the reconsideration of those applications which have been rejected by the Commissioner of Patents, either on account of a defective specification and drawing, or the presentation of an improper claim.

Persons residing at a distance may procure all necessary information respecting the patentability of their inventions, may have their applications for patents made in proper form, and may obtain patents, without incurring the expense of a personal attendance at Washington, by writing to the subscribers.

Models can be safely sent to us by the Expresses.

Rough sketches and descriptions can be sent by mail.

Letters must be post paid.

Office on F street, opposite the Patent Office.
P. H. WATSON.
July 18. E. S. RENWICK.

BOSTON "NATIONAL ERA" AGENCY,

No. 3 Cornhill.

THE *National Era* comes from Washington to this office by Express, and is delivered by carriers in any part of the city proper, at $2.75 a year, *free of postage*; single copies, six and a quarter cents.

Now is the time to secure this national advocate of the Liberty Movement, during the first session of Congress under the new Administration, when questions of the most thrilling importance must be decided.

Subscriptions and renewals respectfully solicited by
Nov. 25. GEO. W. LIGHT, 3 Cornhill.

WHEELAN & WOOD,

WHOLESALE and Retail Boot and Shoe Manufacturers, sign of the *BIG RED BOOT*, No. 39 Lower Market, south side, two doors west of Sycamore street, Cincinnati—Dealers in *Boots, Shoes, Palm Leaf Hats, &c.*
J. P. WHELAN.
May 23—1y A. WOOD.

BOARDING.

MRS. EMILY H. STOCKTON, No. 161 Chestnut street between Fourth and Fifth streets, Philadelphia.
Oct. 25—tf

LARD OIL.

IMPROVED LARD OIL.—Lard Oil of the finest quality equal to sperm for combustion, also for machinery and woollens, being manufactured without acids, can always be purchased and shipped in strong barrels, prepared expressly to prevent leakage. Orders received and executed for the Lake, Atlantic, and Southern cities, also for the West Indies and Canadas. Apply to
THOMAS EMERY, Lard Oil Manufacturer,
Jan. 20. 33 Water street, near Walnut, Cincinnati, O.

LIBERTY ALMANAC FOR 1851.

THE *American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society* have just published another stereotyped Almanac, for the coming year, with special reference to the great question of Slavery at the present time, and in the expectation that the friends of the cause throughout the country will co-operate in diffusing extensively the valuable statistical and reading matter it contains. Considering the expense at which the Almanac has been prepared, the low price at which it is sold, and the increased facilities for forwarding it, by express or otherwise, from New York, over the whole of the Northern States, it is confidently expected that the circulation this year will greatly exceed that of any previous year. So much useful matter cannot well be circulated at less expense.

The Almanac is handsomely printed, on finer paper than usual, with well-executed wood engravings, prepared expressly for it, illustrating the escape of Henry *Box* Brown, a scene at Washington, and the kneeling Slave Mother. Besides the *Calendar*, which is equal in all respects to that of the American Tract Society's Almanac for 1851, and the Eclipses, Cycles, &c., &c., the Almanac contains a variety of interesting and valuable reading and statistical articles of an anti-slavery character, selected and original. The prices will be as follows:

For one thousand copies	$20 00
For one hundred copies	2 50
For one dozen copies	40
For a single copy	05

The friends of the cause are earnestly invited to co-operate in giving a wide circulation to the Almanac, and to send their orders at an early day for a liberal supply. It is suggested that they make arrangements with merchants in their neighborhood, before visiting New York, to have a few hundred Almanacs packed with their goods. In this way the cost of transportation will be very small. If no such opportunity offers, the owners of expresses are now more reasonable in their charges than heretofore. This mode of conveyance is better than the post office, as *every Almanac* sent by mail, whatever the distance, costs two and a half cents.

A Catalogue of most of the Publications for sale at the Depository is annexed, from which selections can be made; and books and pamphlets can be sent with the Almanacs, without much, if any, additional expense.

Orders, *enclosing payment*, in bank notes or post office stamps, may be addressed to
WILLIAM HARNED, *Agent*,
Aug. 8—6t No. 61 John street, New York City.

N. B. Editors friendly to the cause of freedom are respectfully requested to give the above an insertion, as the object in publishing the Almanac is not to make money, but to diffuse useful information.

AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL,

FOR THE CURE OF

COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS, BRONCHITIS, WHOOPING-COUGH, CROUP, ASTHMA, AND CONSUMPTION.

AMONG the numerous discoveries science has made in this generation to facilitate the business of life, increase its enjoyment, and even prolong the term of human existence, none can be named of more real value to mankind than this contribution of chemistry to the healing art. A vast trial of its virtues throughout this broad country has proven beyond a doubt that no medicine or combination of medicines yet known can so surely control and cure the numerous varieties of pulmonary disease which have hitherto swept from our midst thousands and thousands every year. Indeed, there is now abundant reason to believe a remedy has at length been found, which can be relied on to cure the most dangerous affections of the lungs. Our space here will not permit us to publish any proportion of the cures effected by its use, but we would present the following opinions of eminent men, and refer further inquiry to the circular which the agent below named will always be pleased to furnish free, wherein are full particulars and indisputable proof of these facts.

From the President of Amherst College, the celebrated Professor Hitchcock.

JAMES C. AYER—SIR: I have used your *Cherry Pectoral* in my own case of deep-seated bronchitis, and am satisfied, from its chemical constitution, that it is an admirable compound for the relief of laryngial and bronchial difficulties. If my opinion as to its superior character can be of any service, you are at liberty to use it as you think proper.
EDWARD HITCHCOCK, LL. D.

From the widely celebrated Professor Silliman, M. D., LL. D., Professor of Chemistry, Mineralogy, &c., Yale College; Member of the Literary, Historical, Medical, Philosophical, and Scientific Societies of America and Europe.

I deem the Cherry Pectoral an admirable composition from some of the best articles in the materia medica, and a very effective remedy for the class of diseases it is intended to cure.

New Haven, Conn., November 1, 1849.

Major Pattison, President of the South Carolina Senate, states he has used the *Cherry Pectoral* with wonderful success, to cure an inflammation of the lungs.

From one of the first Physicians in Maine.

SACO, ME., *April* 26, 1849.

DEAR SIR: I am now constantly using your *Cherry Pectoral* in my practice, and prefer it to any other medicine for pulmonary complaints. From observation of many severe cases, I am convinced it will cure coughs, colds, and diseases of the lungs, that have put to defiance all other remedies.

I invariably recommend its use in cases of consumption, and consider it much the best remedy known for that disease. Respectfully yours, I. S. CUSHMAN, M. D.

Dr. J. C. AYER, *Lowell.*

☞ Prepared and sold by James C. Ayer, practical chemist, Lowell, Mass., and sold by the druggists generally throughout the United States and Canada. Feb. 6—3m

COMMISSION STORE.

WM. GUNNISON, *General Commission Merchant*, 101 *Bowly's Wharf, Baltimore, Md.* Dec. 22—1y